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EUROMISSILES NECESSITATE EQUAL 'THREAT' TO U.S.

PM150951 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 14 Dec 83 pp 1, 3

["Authoritative Opinion" by Doctor of Philosophical Sciences Lieutenant General D.A. Volkogonov: "Logic of Countermeasures" -- first three paragraphs are reader's letter and editorial note]

[Text] We have all read Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's statement with great attention and completely approve the countermeasures being taken in connection with the deployment of U.S. medium-range missiles in West Europe. It is clear that we socialist countries have been forced to take this step in the face of the increased danger of war. At the same time, we would like to know in more detail the reason behind the new twist to the arms race and what its possible consequences might be.

S. Pavlov, Buzuluk

This question also interests N. Kuritsyn from Volgograd, S. Ibragimov from Kustanay, and many other readers.

U.S. Pershings and Tomahawks tontinue to arrive in West Europe. The first 9 Pershings deployed at Mutlangen (FRG) and 16 Tomahawks based at Greenham Common (Britain) will be brought up to full combat readiness and aimed at specific targets in the Soviet Union in December. The rest of the 572 planned for deployment will arrive on the European Continent strictly on schedule, so U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger said in Paris on 2 December.

What strategic purpose lies behind the deployment of these new U.S. missiles? After all the United States, in its strategic offensive forces (ground-, submarine-, and air-launched), can already direct more than 12,000 nuclear warheads to targets in the first strike (flight) alone! Counting its tactical means and the nuclear forces of its NATO allies, the figure is much higher. How are the Soviet Union and its allies responding to this new, exceptionally dangerous challenge?

The Pentagon's Nuclear Lightning Conductor

The Pentagon, the world's most sinister office, continues to seek ways to achieve a "decisive victory" in a nuclear war. The preamble to the directive "The Development of the U.S. Armed Forces in 1984-88," signed by the U.S. President, formulates the thesis "of the need to be ready to destroy socialism as a social system." This general doctrinal concept of Washington's encourages the Pentagon planners to seek ever-new possibilities for "gaining the upper hand in a decisive clash with the Soviets." The doctrine of "direct confrontation," born within the walls of the U.S. military department some years ago, assigns a special role to West Europe in achieving this impossible goal.

The decision to deploy almost 600 new American missiles was taken back in December 1979. It was no accident that it took 4 years up to the moment of deployment. During this time Washington tried to disarm us in Europe at the negotiating table, advancing absolutely unacceptable proposals. But on the other hand, the Pershing II missile was still not ready for deployment: Its final test launch was only carried out in September 1983, after which it was put into series production. But the Pentagon's strategic design with regard to West Europe has been absolutely clear right from the start, although even today NATO politicians try to camouflage it with propaganda cosmetics.

The Washington strategists' basic, chief design consists in using these new American missiles to divert from themselves as large a part of the USSR's nuclear means as possible in the event of a nuclear war being unleashed by the NATOites and of an enforced counterstrike by us. People on the Potomac realize that, if they make a nuclear strike on the Soviet Union, then they will naturally incur a counterstrike in return. And it was at this point that the Pentagon planners were tempted to try to limit a war just to Europe. For them this is the most advantageous model of a war: for its chief operations, according to their designs, should unfold outside U.S. territory.

This strategic design of the Pentagon's, which sends its allies to be slaughtered, also has another side. It is proposed to use the missiles deployed on the very threshold of the Soviet Union and its friends as a means for so-called "disarming" strike. According to the doctrine of direct confrontation, the purpose of a disarming strike is to destroy the nuclear missile potential which the enemy could use to launch a counterstrike. C. Weinberger's entourage has a still more cynical name for a disarming strike -- a "decapitating" strike. Pentagon strategists do not hide the fact that such a strike is to be used primarily to destroy or put out of action state and military control centers as well as Soviet nuclear missile complexes.

In addition, it should be borne in mind that all the new American missiles being deployed in West Europe are strategic weapons with regard to us. For the Soviet SS-20 missiles, being operational-purpose missiles [rakety operativnogo prednaznacheniya], are not dangerous to the United Stated by virtue of their limited range. But the American Pershing and Tomahawk-type cruise missiles being deployed in Europe can reach practically all points in the European part of the Soviet Union. Therefore, the big lie about the "unprecedented Soviet threat" supposedly stemming from Soviet medium-range missiles -- a lie being manipulated in the West -- is calculated for the misinformed listener, reader, and viewer. American sociologist J. Donovan frankly admits: "The Soviet threat is the most convenient and constant enemy. If this 'threat' did not exist, the military would simply have to invent it."

Using the very worst, insidious prescriptions of psychological warfare, American "hawks" daily and hourly spatter the awareness of readers, viewers, and listeners with the chief idea that the Soviet threat is not a myth but a reality. Tens and hundreds of "arguments" built on juggling with facts, on direct falsification of events, and on the most brazen lies are cited to intimidate people inexperienced in politics. A well thought-out game is being played with the feelings of the petit and middle bourgeoisie and of ordinary people who, by virtue of their class nature and misinformed position, are not prepared to recognize as fair the thesis of the equal security of states of the two systems. A wave of anti-Sovietism is being used virtually to justify the U.S. and NATO "right" to "first," "disarming," "decapitating," and other strikes. However, honest people in NATO countries (and there are millions of them) disagree with the role which transatlantic strategists have prepared for them.

The Sinister Shadow of Pershings

Western countries' leading circles, representatives of big capital, the military, and the leadership of bourgeois parties obediently follow in the wake of American policy. For neither Thatcher nor Kohl, nor indeed other statesmen, can understand what consequences this antipopular and extremely dangerous policy could have.

Imperialist solidarity and class hatred of socialism, together with Washington's unceremonious pressure, are expressed in the fact that the leadership of the majority of NATO states, which express the interests of monopoly capital and of the military-industrial complex, are doing all they can to facilitate, assist, and help the Pentagon to realize its exceptionally dangerous plans. Judge for yourselves.

Pershing II missiles have a range of up to 2,500 km. They are equipped with a monobloc warhead with a yield of 80 kilotons. Work is being conducted in the United States to equip the missile with a nose section with three nuclear warheads. They are accurate missiles: The circular error from the set target is 60 meters. But the Pentagon incendiaries keep quiet about something else: Having deployed the planned 108 Pershings, they will not stop at that. Some reports suggest that the Americans intend to bring into Europe approximately 400 of these missiles and hundreds of warheads for them. According to the aforementioned directive on developing the U.S. Armed Forces, the Pentagon intends to produce approximately 1,000 of these monsters in this decade.

Pershings are already being installed during these December days on West German soil at Mutlangen; Hall Bronn and Neu Ulm are next in line. Work is in full swing on deploying cruise missiles in Britain and Italy. These means are being equipped with a still more powerful warhead of 200 kilotons, and have the same range as Pershings, and their purpose is obvious: to inflict a massive nuclear strike on hundreds of targets on the territory of the Soviet Union and its allies. Since it is very difficult to combat these missiles (they fly at a very low altitude and "sneak up" on the target in the folds of the terrain, as it were), it is also possible to categorize these means as first-strike weapons. It is also planned to deploy them in Belgium and the Netherlands. Although the governments of those states have not yet made the final decision. It may be said that the sinister shadow of nuclear danger has swept over Europe from across the ocean together with the missiles. Millions of people in Western countires are becoming increasingly clearly aware that life in the missile twilight promises them nothing good. Their attitude to the "Euromissiles" is expressed with the utmost clarity in the antimilitarist movement, the crest of whose wave has risen higher than ever.

Whereas in August 1983 56 percent of people polled in the FRG were opposed to the deployment of American missiles in West Europe, in December (with the start of deployment) the number of protesters against this possibly fatal step has increased to 76 percent. Approximately half the British poeple polled and 62 percent of Italians are opposed to the deployment of American missiles.

But the stronger the popular protest grows against the American missiles, the more refined the NATOites become in their lies and their attempts to shift the responsibility for the increasing tension and war danger onto the Soviet Union. Now that the Soviet Union has been forced to leave the Geneva talks (for it could not pursue them under conditions when the Americans are targeting new missiles on our cities!), the West hypocritically "regrets" this fact. Everyone knows that the Soviet Union traveled its part of the road toward a possible accord at the talks, but the Americans merely procrastinated, preparing to deploy their systems. During the years of talks on "Euromissiles" they essentially did not take a single constructive step there. The CIA, the USIA, and the Pentagon are taking all measures to reduce the intensity of antimissile demonstrations and suppress the wave of popular anger. During the first 10 days of December, additional measure to "neutralize" the antimissile movement in Europe were formulated at sessions of various NATO committees in Brussels. In accordance with those decisions and with loud appeals from Washington, specific steps are being taken to discredit the leaders of the peace movement, moral terror is being carried out, and agents provocateurs and special service agents are being infiltrated into the ranks of protesters against the new American missiles.

The command that resounded in Brussels from across the ocean created a sinister echo in NATO capitals. In Bonn, for example, a coordination center is operating at government level to "block antisocial elements acting under slogans of peace."

As we see, the reckless U.S. and NATO steps, which make peace still more fragile and unstable, have given rise to unprecedented public protest.

Balance as a Guarantee of Security

Faced with the increasing threat of war, mankind is realizing increasingly clearly the indisputable truth that hopes pinned on the future can be realized only under conditions of peace. However, the shadow of the nuclear threat, with the United States and NATO standing behind it, is growing darker and darker. Under these conditions honest people in different countries are doing a great deal to ensure that the very worst -- nuclear catastrophe -- does not happen. At the present time there is one important, objective basis for this which, if realized in reality, could create sound preconditions for the preservation and strengthening of peace. What am I talking about?

The Soviet political leadership has repeatedly declared that peace can be ensured now only on the basis of observing the principle of equal security for all states. But the desire to ensure one's own security, as the United States is doing, at the cost of a total absence of such security for the USSR and its allies can only increase the risk of a terrible war. A military-political situation has now objectively taken shape whereby parity, balance, and equality between the nuclear missile forces of the two opposing blocs can ensure a state of peace on our planet. Under present conditions peace is possible only under conditions of equilibrium and restraint.

These factors are assuming the role of the shapers of destiny. And, conversely, superiority multiplied by the ill will of those who strive after hegemony makes the structure of peace very shaky.

Now, with the tremendous interdependence and interconnection of the world, any attempt to upset the balance could lead to irremediable catastrophe. Unfortunately, this is not understood on Washington's hill of power. The military-strategic balance thus appears as the determining material leitmotiv which could be used as a basis for moving on to the next stage: talks on the balanced, equal, and gradual reduction of the two sides' levels of arms. However, the whole content of U.S. policy and of Washington's specific actions is aimed at breaking, disrupting, and severely shaking the balance of USSR and U.S. strategic forces which has taken shape and which currently exists. And it is all the same if part of the foundation is pulled from under the edifice of peace: It will not simply rock but could in fact collapse, burning millions of people, including the initiators of this monstrous action. But the stamp of American jackboots can be heard ever louder in Europe, and indeed not only here.

Being principled in its policy of maintaining peace and seeing only one way to maintain it in the conditions that have come about today, the Soviet Union has been forced to respond to the dangerous new challenge. This is the path of maintaining the balance and the equality of USSR and U.S. nuclear-missile potentials. The statement by our party leader and head of state, Yu.V. Andropov stressed that the specific measures being undertaken by the Soviet side are aimed at preventing the disruption of the military balance. The nationwide support for these measures evidences the inflexible determination of Soviet people to erect reliable barriers against the NATO war machine. What are these steps?

Earlier, in order to create a favorable atmosphere at the Geneva talks on medium-range weapons, the Soviet Union announced a unilateral moratorium on the deployment of these means in the European USSR. Now this moratorium is being lifted. As of today, the USSR has 938 medium-range carriers in Europe, (of which half are various types of missiles, and the rest aircraft), that is, approximately as many as NATO has. If the United States continues to deploy its missiles in the West, the Soviet side has a right to take the necessary steps to deploy missile systems in order to maintain parity.

In addition, by agreement with the GDR and CSSR Governments, the work on deploying operational-tactical missile complexes, started some time ago, has been accelerated. These missiles are of a range sufficient to reach the regions where the new U.S. medium-range facilities will be deployed.

But the chief thing -- and this must be stressed particularly -- is that the Soviet side cannot leave aside the level of threat to the United States itself, on which the Pentagon has gambled and is now gambling by deploying missiles in Europe. This threat will be completely equal to the threat which the "Euromissiles" pose to the USSR and its allies.

In accordance with Comrade Yu. V. Andropov's statement, Soviet submarine-launched medium-range missiles will be deployed in the ocean regions and seas which wash U.S. territory, in numbers to equal the increase in the direct threat to the USSR. As Marshal of the Soviet N.V. Ogarkov, chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff, stressed at the 5 December Moscow press conference, in terms of range, yield, accuracy, and -- particularly important -- flight time to the target, these means will be equal to the U.S. missiles in Europe. Let us recall that the Pershings' flight time to targets in the Soviet Union is 6-8 minutes.

Of course, certain other countermeasures may be taken if necessary. But they have all been forced on us. Their aim is to maintain the military balance. Otherwise, sensing his advantage, the potential aggressor may not be able to resist the temptation and rush into a terrible adventure, in which the fate of human civilization is at stake. These measures by the Soviet state completely rule out the possibility of realizing the chimera of gaining a military victory over socialism.

Unfortunately, Washington continues to view foreign policy as a phenomenon where one side is bound to win and the other to lose. But you can only treat poker, for example, like that. It is high time it was understood that this stance can only lead to a global loss for everyone -- to war; but we need a general gain -- peace. And peace today can only be guaranteed on the basis of balance, equality, and parity of strategic nuclear forces.

It is possible that, when the Atlanticists see for themselves that their pursuit of superiority is ephemeral and they are forced to live in conditions of equality, they will finally realize that this military balance is desirable at lower levels.

But meanwhile we are forced to accept this militarist challenge threatening our security. And though we know that the potential aggressor is not able to win a nuclear war, he is capable of unleashing it. Soviet people understand that, the higher our state's defense might and the Armed Forces' combat readiness, the less the probability of the aggressor's resorting to a nuclear adventure. This is the logic of our countermeasures.

SOVIET DEPLOYMENT 'FORCED DEFENSIVE MEASURE'

PM141132 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Dec 83 Second Edition p 3

[Article by Captain 2d Class V. Kuzar: "Necessary Measures"]

[Text] Numerous facts attest that imperialism's aggressive circles are continuing their attempts to alter the existing approximate military-strategic equilibrium and secure military superiority over the Warsaw Pact states. The start of the siting of new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in the FRG, Britian, and Italy with the agreement of their governments is new confirmation of this.

The appearance of these first-strike nuclear weapons in Europe creates a fundamentally new situation. The NATO military's reckless act has erased the possibility of talks in Geneva. It was not only blatant disregard for the people's security interests, but also evidence of the adventurism and unpredictability of the U.S. course.

The Soviet Union and the socialist community countries have done much to avoid the growing danger of a nuclear confrontation and to save humanity from a new stage in the arms race. The proposals put forward by the Warsaw Pact states and the USSR's peace initiatives convincingly demonstrate their readiness to cooperate with all countries in order to avert a dangerous course of events. These proposlas created a favorable basis for achieving success at the Geneva talks on limiting nuclear arms in Europe. At the same time, although the socialist countries occupy flexible positions, they cannot overstep the line of sensible compromise. Their leaders have repeatedly stated that the socialist countries will not remain indifferent to NATO's military preparations and will be capable of making an appropriate response to any attempt to break the existing military-strategic balance.

After carefully and comprehensively weighing up the situation that has arisen, the Soviet Union announced specific retaliatory measures. They are set out in Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's statement of 24 November 1983. The measures announced by the Soviet Union are forced steps, a retaliatory reaction to the reckless policy of Washington and the other NATO countires, and a serious warning to the adventurists. The aim of these measures is to maintain equilibrium in nuclear arms.

The Soviet Union does not desire military superiority and will do only what is absolutely necessary to ensure that the military equilibrium is not disrupted. Its retaliatory measures will be adequate to meet the threat of the new U.S. missiles. Thus the Soviet means with respect to U.S. territory itself that are being deployed in the ocean regions and seas will be no less effective in range, power, accuracy, and -- especially important -- flight time to the target than the U.S. means being sited in Europe.

At the same time our country is in no way closing the door to the reaching of accords. But this will depend above all on the leadership of the United States and the other NATO countries. If the leadership of these states shows a readiness to return to the situation that existed before the start of the siting in Europe of the U.S. medium-range missiles, the Soviet Union will also be ready to do this. Then the proposals that it previously submitted on the questions of limiting and reducing nuclear arms in Europe would again come into force.

It was not the Soviet Union or the Warsaw Pact states that created this situation requiring the taking of effective measures. That is recognized by all people of goodwill. The participants in the numerous rallies and meetings currently being held in the USSR, the GDR, the CSSR, and other socialist countries are approving and supporting the measures to safeguard the security of the socialist community countries.

In connection with the retaliatory measures, the Czechoslovak newspaper PRAVDA, for instance, wrote: "The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries cannot stand idly watching the reactionary forces, which have made frenzied anticommunism and antisocialism their creed, amass ever-new arsenals of deadly weapons for aggression. History has already taught the peoples a bitter lesson when Hitlerite fascism, after gathering its strength for aggression, set about drowning Europe in blood. Current U.S. policy reminds us of the past and requires vigilance."

Having got the bit between their teeth, however, the militant militarists do not want to heed the voice of reason and are continuing to build up military preparations. Moreover, by intentionally distorting the real state of affairs, they are trying to duck their responsibility for the further exacerbation of the international situation, are spreading rumors that the Soviet Union broke off its participation in the talks purely for tactical reasons, and are creating illusions about some kind of Soviet concessions and the resumption of the previous talks in Geneva.

Simultaneously imperialism's psychological warfare organs have made attempts to slander the socialist countries' countermeasures. Anti-Soviet statements have appeared in the United States and certain other NATO countries portraying the USSR's forced defensive measures as a manifestation of "Moscow's belligerence." The modern crusaders are trying to arouse in the European peoples, primarily in the GDR and CSSR populace, a negative reaction to the Soviet Union's decisions, putting the steps it has announced on a par with their own criminal plans. In this sordid campaign they are especially gambling on the socialist countries' young people in an attempt to provoke them to demonstrate against the missiles.

However, the militarists will not succeed in deceiving public opinion and obtaining unilateral disarmament from socialism. The peoples see in the Soviet Union's sober and realistic position the guarantee of peace and security, and in the maintenance of nuclear equilibrium a deterrent to the aggressive aspirations of imperialist reaction.

NITZE REMARKS ON ARMS TALKS 'CONFUSING'

LD161638 Moscow Service in English 1200 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] The chief American negotiator at the Geneva talks on limiting nuclear weapons in Europe, Paul Nitze, has admitted that the Soviet side had serious intentions. In an interview with the West German magazine DER SPIEGEL, he at the same time alleged, contrary to logic, that the Soviet Union, as he put it, torpedoed negotiations. Mr Nitze in fact failed to clarify statements by a number of American Administration officials that Washington was not interested in reaching agreement in Geneva from the very start. Equally confusing were Nitze's explanations of the United States' desire for a balanced accord. He was clearly put out by a correspondent who, when asking a question, quoted President Reagan as saying that military superiority is desirable for the United States.

Nitze's bellicose statement that the best way to prevent nuclear war is harassment shows what the American side really strives for.

LEVIN COMMENTS ON U.S. MISSILE DEPLOYMENT

LD161255 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0901 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Excerpts] The beginning of deployment in Europe of U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles is currently arousing special anxiety, as you know. How is the prevailing situation assessed abroad? I asked our commentator Viktor Levin to answer this question.

[Begin Levin recording] I will begin with assessments being made in countries of the socialist community. It is clear from the decisions of central committees plenums of fraternal parties held recently, and from documents adopted by the supreme state bodies, that our friends and allies unanimously support the 24 November statement by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov and the measures being undertaken to ensure the security of the socialist countries to preserve the military-strategic parity.

It is known that the deployment of operational-tactical missiles of increased range is being undertaken on GDR territory and Czechoslovakia in agreement with the governments of these countries, and it should be noted that the public of the GDR and CSSR understands the necessity for implementing the appropriate measures to neutralize the American Pershing II's and cruise missiles.

It can be said that the opinion of wide circles of the public in West European states in similar. The 4-12 December International Week of Action against the Pershing II's and cruise missiles, which took place following an appeal from the World Peace Council, convincingly showed that the beginning of the deployment of U.S. missiles has not demoralized the antiwar movement, but on the contrary has provided it with a new powerful impulse. The opponents of armaments in Western Europe are fully determined to continue the struggle, and this factor of international politics should not be underestimated.

Regarding NATO circles, they are undertaking very active efforts at the moment so as to remove responsibility from themselves for the negative development in international relations. With these aims in mind, high-ranking spokesmen of the U.S. Administration, including President Reagan himself, almost daily stress that they are striving to solve the missiles problem through talks. President Reagan, for example, gave the assurance that the United States is ready to resume talks immediately so that the number of missiles in Europe could be cut.

In practice, however, it is clear that the U.S. Administration is raising the issue of cutting the quantity of Soviet missiles only, for the obscure formulation of the U.S. President hides the same interim option under which the NATO bloc would receive an almost double superiority. The United States and its closest allies in NATO are stubbornly continuing to pursue their line. But the fact that they are obliged to dodge about, to justify themselves, provides grounds for concluding that the consistent, principled policy of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, and the clearly expressed opinion of the West European public, will have their effect.

U.S. TAKING 'IRREVERSIBLE' STEP TOWARD SPACE WAR

LD180001 Moscow World Service in English 2110 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Text] Defense Department officials in the United States have announced that a substantial increase is needed in current spending to develop technologies for the space age warfare envisioned by the Reagan administration. Our observer Yuriy Reshetnikov in his commentary discusses Reagan's space war preparations.

The administration's space age warfare plan has reportedly become a major element in next year's bid for the defense budget. According to Pentagon officials, a potential 50-percent increase in military spending will be required. Reagan, in what was called his star wars speech, had announced a comprehensive plan to define a long-term research and development effort aimed at producing technologies capable of conducting space warfare.

Military officials indicated that in the next five years $27,000 million will be spent by the Pentagon for development of relevant technologies. At the turn of the century $95,000 million will be spent for this purpose, which accounts for one-third of the Pentagon's total military budget next year.

The space warfare plans considered in Washington do not come as something totally unexpected. The United States military brass have had their sights set on space for some time now. A few weeks ago Washington announced a series of tests of a new satellite killer which, international policy experts said, would be the first United States step toward extending the arms race into space. By testing the new weapon, the experts believe, the United States may be taking an irreversible step towards war in space.

The center for defense information, headed by retired Admiral Gene Larocque, recently called for a mutual moratorium on antisatellite weapons as the first step towards a broad arms control agreement. The major powers are faced with a unique but fleeting arms control opportunity, Mr Larocque said, if we allow this opportunity to evaporate war in space will become more likely, a war which will inevitably engulf the earth. Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov, meeting a group of visiting American Senators last August, reiterated the Soviet Union's position on that issue. This country has offered to ban the use, testing, and deployment of both space-based weapons and antisatellite weapons of any type. In light of the positive and constructive Soviet attitude, the response of the Reagan administration has been very disappointing.

Instead of reaching for this opportunity to block a potentially devastating arms race in space, the United State Administration is in fact taking the lead in this direction. Whatever Washington officials have in mind, it would be naive to believe that a powerful nation such as the Soviet Union, the pioneer in space exploration, would allow the United States to achieve military supremacy in space.

SUCCESSES OF CEMA COOPERATION HAILED IN EDITORIAL

PM151019 IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "A Trace on the Earth"]

[Text] "Built in accordance with the Comprehensive Program for Socialist Economic Integration..." Who would dare say exactly how many reports published in recent years have begun with this now commonplace phrase, which is short but full of meaning. We have received such reports at the editorial office from various corners of our country and from Bulgaria, Poland, Mongolia, Cuba, and all the fraternal socialist countries. They are joyful, triumphant, and innumerable.

"The history of world socialism confirms," Comrade Yu. V. Andropov has stressed, "that the socialist system creates every opportunity for the confident progress of society and harmonious relations between countries. We can see many examples of how these opportunities are realized on the basis of the principles of socialist internationalism, which include absolute respect for the sovereign rights of each country, mutual comradely support, and mutual assistance." Absolute respect, comradely support, and mutual assistance are the principles which clearly characterize the selfless labor of the many-thousands-strong detachment of Soviet specialists who are taking a direct part in creating various national economic installations in the fraternal socialist countries.

Let us recall such important and memorable events for our friends as the recent celebrations connected with the commissioning of the first power unit at Hungary's first nuclear power station at Paks, the opening to traffic of the new 5-kilometer 2-tier bridge in the capital of Vietnam, the completion of the construction of the Erdenet Mining and Enriching Combine in Mongolia, which is the largest in Asia... Describing these notable projects built with the Soviet Union's help and with the direct participation of Soviet specialists, the fraternal countries' press has stressed that they are new examples of the successful implementation of the Comphrensive Program for Socialist Economic Integration of the CEMA member countries and another vivid manifestation of the Leninist policy of socialist internationalism pursued invariably by the CPSU and the Soviet state.

Hundreds of enterprises built in recent years in the socialist community countries are impressive symbols of our peoples' friendship, which is strengthening with every passing day, and a visible embodiment of their successful comradely cooperation. Each installation that has been built meets modern scientific and technical demands and is equipped with highly productive equipment. Such cooperation produces a tremendous economic result. The commissioning of these installations helps the fraternal countries to develop their economy and strengthen their material and technical base. Our economic relations are now developing using high forms of cooperation such as the coordination of national economic plans, production specialization and sharing, and the pooling of national resources to introduce the latest achievements of the scientific and technical revolution.

But it is not just the economic result which is typical of our relations. Based on the firm and tested foundations of Marxism-Leninism and the lofty principles of socialist internationalism, they play an important role in asserting the socialist world outlook and strengthening trust and mutual understanding among our countries' peoples. Thus, in helping friends construct various national economic installations, thousands of Soviet specialists show through personal example the inexhaustible force of collectivism and comradeship and of the Soviet way of life.

Their contribution to the training of national cadres for the fraternal countries is huge. The mentorship movement, the creation of international teams, and various forms of socialist competition successfully practiced in our country are being developed on a particularly broad scale. The Zlobin method of organizing construction work on the principle of the team contract, the thousander movement in the coal industry, the multiple machine movement in the textile industry, the Lvov system of product quality control, and other progressive forms of improving labor productivity are well known to our friends.

In turn, thousands of highly skilled specialists from the fraternal countries, which generously share the scientific and technical achievements they have accumulated and a wealth of experience of advanced methods of production organization, work successfully at enterprises in the Soviet Union. "Learning from friends and the joint striving for the highest possible achievements," communist Erich Langer, worker at the Barkas Motor Vehicle Plant stressed in the newspaper FREIE PRESSE (GDR), "are only possible because we are united by a common world outlook and the teaching of scientific communism created by Marx, Engels, and Lenin."

The successes of socialist economic integration are indisputable. The dynamic development of mutually advantageous cooperation among all the fraternal countries promotes the growth of their economic potential, the improvement of working people's living conditions, and the growth of their well-being. The socialist community still has tremendous tasks to resolve in the near future. Our countries have now started to elaborate socioeconomic development plans for 1986-1990 and the subsequent period. As the 37th Berlin sitting of the CEMA session noted, socialist economic integration will be raised to a new and higher level.

...The Hanoi Machine Plant was built with the Soviet Union's aid back in 1957. It was then the largest industrial enterprise in northern Vietnam. Soviet specialists transformed it into the forge of Vietnamese worker cadres and highly skilled master of machine building. The broad road which leads from the entrance to the plant buildings is called "Friendship Avenue." On the trunk of each tree planted along this road a small plate is fixed with the name of a Soviet specialist who worked at the plant. When greeting the latest group of young workers here, the old foreman without fail takes them to one of the trees and citing the name of our fellow countryman, adds: "He was our teacher, friend, and brother."

A fine trace to leave on the earth!

BLOC STATES PLAN DEVELOPMENT, BACK USSR MISSILES

LD171859 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Text] The CSSR Federal Assembly has confirmed the plan for the development of the national economy for 1984, which envisages a 3 percent increase in national income. Here is a news commentary with Viktor Levin at the microphone:

[Begin recording] Sessions of the supreme organs of state power and fraternal parties' Central Committee plenums have recently been held in a number of socialist states. Analyzing the international situation, the fraternal countries have noted U.S. imperialism's worsening of tension and stressed the necessity of adopting countermeasures to maintain military-strategic parity.

The documents that have been adopted at the Central Committee plenums and the parliament sessions express unanimous support for the 24 November statement by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov.

It must be noted that in the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia there is complete understanding of the necessity of deploying tactical increased-range missiles on their territories in order to neutralize the appearance in West Europe of U.S. medium-range missiles. Other socialist states are also ready to make their contribution to the general cause. For example, Poland clearly and unambiguously defined its position with regard to the attempts by the United States and NATO as a whole to break the parity that has been established in Europe.

We are currently passing through a complicated period in international relations, but this is by no means diverting the socialist states from the main line of construction. The CSSR Federal Assembly, the GDR People's Chamber, the MSZMP Central Committee plenum -- and I am just going through the most recent events -- devoted their main attention to further economic development and to questions of the people's well-being, in developing and confirming their state plans. As has already been stated, Czechoslovakia's national income is planned to increase by 3 percent, the GDR's by 4.4 percent, Hungary's by 1.5-2 percent. Behind these figures the unchanging nature of the socialist countries' policy to do everything possible for the good of the people can be seen.

It is essential to draw attention to yet another very important aspect. In confirming the plan for next year, the socialist countries stress the particular importance of developing cooperation with the Soviet Union and with other CEMA states. This cooperation will provide stability and confidence in solving the most complex economic tasks. It is very typical, for example, that next year trade turnover between the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia is to increase by a further 12 percent to reach a sum of more than R12 billion. Life is facing all the socialist states with difficult tasks, but it is significantly easier to solve them by joint efforts, and it is to this that all the fraternal countries are directing themselves. [end recording]

COMPARISON OF NURIYEV TALKS WITH CEMA DELEGATES

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 9 December in its Morning Edition on page 4 carries a TASS report on Z. Nuriyev's meeting with CEMA agriculture delegates entitled "Talks Held". The IZVESTIYA report has been compared with the Moscow Domestic Service version, published on page BB1 in the 9 December Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, revealing the following variations:

Paragraph one, line two reads in IZVESTIYA:...taking part in the 59th session of the....(adding phrase)

Paragraph one, line ten reads in IZVESTIYA:...the Food Program. A number of questions pertaining to the further development of multilateral cooperation in the sphere of agricultural production and food industry sectors was also discussed. Taking part in...(inserting sentence)

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD181640 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 18 Dec 83

["International Observers Roundtable" program with political observers Vitaliy Ivanovich Kobysh and Nikolay Vladimirovich Shishlin and All-Union Radio commentator Viktor Nikolayevich Levin]

CSSR, GDR Missile Siting Noted

[Text] [Levin] Hello esteemed comrades. The trademark of the recent past has been attempts to understand an event which took place slightly earlier, that is, the start of the deployment of U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe. It is now already clear to everyone in socialist countries and among the progressive peace-loving public of capitalist states on the continent of Europe that the arrival of the Pershing II and cruise missiles constitutes an extreme threat to the cause of peace.

It must be said first and foremost that this opinion is very consistently shared by the socialist countries. In the CSSR the paper RUDE PRAVO stresses, for example, that the accord between the governments of Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union on deployment on the territory of Czechoslovakia of enhanced range operational tactical missile complexes strengthens the sovereignty and security of Czechoslovakia and is an expression of a high level of responsibility for the peaceful future of the country. In this connection the paper recalls that one of the batteries of Pershing II is deployed only 180 km from the Czechoslovak border.

An analogous opinion is also expressed in the GDR where, also by agreement with the government of that country, preparatory work is in hand for the deployment of operational tactical missiles intended to neutralize the deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles.

The socialist countries support the statement by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov of 24 November and express the firm conviction that the cause of peace will be served by the creation of a global balance of forces and that the attempts by the United States to destroy this balance are fraught with great danger.

It must be said that this period of reflection, this period of realization, is making its presence felt in NATO circles as well. For example the FINANCIAL TIMES notes that within the Western alliance there is growing anxiety over the deterioration of its relations with the socialist countries and a desire somehow to rectify the situation, although at this point it must be said straight out that the decisions of NATO organs recently adopted do not give any reason to infer any search for the sort of solution which would really open up a path toward settlement...

NATO's 'Missile Force' Policy

[Kobysh interrupts] It is the Brussels meetings that you have in mind.

[Levin] Quite right, yes.

[Kobysh] Yes. In general it emerged there that the line of the United States and NATO toward the methods of force reinforced by nuclear missile weaponry remains in operation, and although at this session there was again an arranged show of love for peace with all sorts of demonstrations of the good will of Washington and its allies...

[Shishlin interrupts] ... only not very specific ones.

[Kobysh] Yes, even absolutely incomprehensible ones. But still the main result of the Brussels meetings -- and there was a whole series of them there -- was so to speak the legalization of the deployment of medium-range missiles and confirmation of the schedule for deployment of these missiles.

And in this connection, of course, a question arises: If this is all already, so to speak, absolutely final and the schedule is being confirmed, than what is that part of the U.S. delegation doing that still remains in Geneva waiting for the return of the Soviet delegation to continue talks on medium-range systems in Europe, medium-range missile weaponry? Somehow the one does not fit in with the other. Either the schedule is being confirmed and the missiles are being deployed and then the talks are broken off, or continue the talks and stop deploying the missiles. This is a course toward a nucelar policy of missile force.

[Shishlin] Well, I would like to add to that that incidentally during this December round of meetings of the NATO organs the following detail was also evident. This was that not only did the NATO members follow Washington on the matter of the deployment of those medium-range systems in question, but it is also noticeable that NATO is now orienting itself toward the modernization of its weapons which number among those classified as conventional weapons. This can be seen quite clearly in those decisions which were adopted both by ministers of foreign affairs and ministers of defense as well as by the NATO Nuclear Planning Committee. To be sure this is also quite a serious thing...

[Kobysh] Very.

[Shishlin] All the more so because modern conventional weapons are taking on the characteristics of weapons of mass destruction. And of course, I agree with you absolutely that NATO is not deviating from the course of increasing weapons although it is costing NATO members themselves increasingly dearly. And incidentally, they complained there to the U.S. representatives that, they said, it will be extremely difficult for them to find the funds for a 3 percent increase in the budgets.

Now then, let's ask the following question: Is the anxiety of the NATO members about those measures which they already implemented in November and December to advance U.S. weaponry into the territory of Western Europe serious? I think that their concern is serious. The concern is serious not only among the public, not only among opposition political forces but also among ruling circles. To be sure, this is the reason behind all sorts of ideas and views as to how dialogue between the Soviet Union and the United States might be unfrozen. There are all sorts of ideas there. There is now a particular political climate in Europe.

And at this point I think it is worth asking another question: Has the United States gained anything as a result of these actions? Has the United States gained anything in placing its Pershings and cruise missiles on the territory of the FRG, Britain and also, of course, Italy? I think not.

As we have already mentioned, the measures taken in response by the Soviet Union prevent the destruction of the military and strategic parity in Europe.

[Levin] They count on gaining strategic advantage by deploying Pershing-II's but we are forced to counterbalance this advantage by deploying such systems in the ocean's expanses and on the seas; and our aim is, as it has been and still remains, not to tolerate the breaking of military strategic parity and to safeguard the security of socialist countries, and preserve peace.

But Nikolay Vladimirovich, I would like to return to your thought as to what the United States can now count as the result of its actions. Here I turned my attention to a publication in the journal U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT. It gave a very brief but incisive expression of one thought which is probably making itself felt very strongly in the United States. The journal writes that Reagan, the U.S. President, is concerned by the fact that he has gained a reputation as a cold war warrior. He is now trying to take certain actions that will present him in a different light. I can picture such propaganda actions and it must be said that recently this same Reagan came out in favor of renewing the talks in Geneva saying that the United States is aspiring toward dialogue with the Soviet Union and favors missile reductions.

True, the entire position of the Americans in the final analysis boils down to reductions of Soviet missiles. But to be sure, words remain words and it has now come to light that the Pentagon has formulated the first draft of a new budget, the military budget, the military budget for 1985. The first draft is very eloquent. The increase in military expenditure is 16 percent. Even when it has been adjusted to take inflation into account it is in excess of 10 percent and when calculated in absolute terms it amounts to $305 billion. It is, of course, very difficult to call such a program peace-loving. This is a program for the arms race. This is a program of whipping up tension. This is the same old hope of the United States of America to achieve military and strategic superiority.

[Shishlin] If we are talking purely of political results of the U.S. actions then I want to repeat that these are by no means cheerful results for the United States, by no means cheerful. And behind the superficial unity of action by NATO countires there lurks in reality great anxiety and worry as well as mediation and reflection, and certain NATO participants -- well, for example Greece, Denmark and Spain -- are making direct provisions on NATO decisions.

[Levin] And here it was especially noticeable that the United States gained nothing at the UN General Assembly vote on extremely important resolutions aimed at limiting the arms race, at averting the proliferation of the arms race into space. So, for example, when the question raised by the Soviet Union on not allowing space to be militarized was put to the vote the overwhelming majority of delegates voted in support of this proposal.

Only 10 states were against, including the United States. And it's worth noting that in that vote Britain abstained. The question of stopping nuclear weapon tests came up: for, 117, including the Soviet Union; against, the United States, Britain, France, and China. The question is whether to freeze nuclear armaments and ban the use of nuclear weapons. Who votes against? The United States and its closest NATO allies. Incidentally, it's this that seems to me particularly remarkable.

U.S. Policy in 'Isolation'

[Kobysh] All the same -- and one should be aware of this -- people in the United States do realize what thermonuclear war is. And, of course, in the higher echelons of power they simply cannot fail to know that a thermonuclear war would be a fatal step for America itself.

Yes, of course, what they're trying to do is to use force and impudence to take what they want and achieve their political aims by means of nuclear blackmail. But I'd like to come back, as I think it's extremely important, to the idea you've already expressed, because both the results of the vote at the United Nations that you were speaking of, Viktor Nikolayevich, and the situation that has now been created in Europe -- all this confirms the conclusion that, politically, the United States has gained nothing and, if anything, has lost. On the basis that it won't succeed in breaking the military parity, one asks oneself, what, as it were, has it succeeded in doing?

One thing it certainly has succeeded in doing: it has still further antagonized both West Europe and the whole world -- well, and engendered in Britain, in West Germany, in Italy and in other countries of West Europe a degree of anti-Americanism that has not existed hitherto. And this largely accounts for the peace-loving liturgy that's now being intoned in Washington. It's both an attempt to neutralize somehow or other its own antiwar, antinuclear movement, and an effort to soften up the West Europeans and show Washington's love of peace. In short it is being pressured into doing all this. The fact remains that the medium-range nuclear weapons, the American missiles that it has started deploying in Europe, have caused a deterioration in the situation, have led to a general increase of tension. But another obvious factor is that the United States finds itself in political isolation because of this.

[Levin] It's necessary to say that it's not only over the problem of European policy that American policy is coming into collision with the huge majority of states. Take the tangle in the Near East, which is exceedingly tense and explosive. The General Assembly is also debating a resolution on Palestine. This resolution is passed by the votes of 124 countries, with only 4 against -- the United States, Israel, Canada and Australia. In other words, again, this is also, after all, a condemnation of the policy that the United States is pursuing in the Near East -- a policy which has become especially dangerous this week.

[Kobysh] Yes, the American large-caliber guns are now already aimed and pounding Lebanon straight from the ships that stand offshore. This, of course, is a new stage -- something that hasn't happened since Vietnam: the United States is being drawn into direct military operations in Lebanon. Previously, they were urging Israel to commit aggression against the Arab countries.

[Shishlin] Not that Israel needed much urging!

[Kobysh] Yes. Now it's hard to say whether Israel is urging the United States, or whether the United States is, by itself, being drawn into military operations in the Near East, very much as it was once drawn into Vietnam. That, by the way, is precisely how the situation is now being regarded by a great many serious people in the United States -- and, I'd say, by the broad public. With great alarm.

Battleship 'New Jersey' Viewed

[Levin] In general, the fact that Lebanon is being fired on by the guns of the battleship "New Jersey" also has, in a certain sense, symbolic significance. This battleship was built during World War II; then for a long time it was in retirement, but when the Korean War broke out, the American authorities sent it there. Then it was engaged in piracy in Vietnamese waters. Then after Vietnam it underwent a modernization, which cost more than $300 million. And when after modernization "New Jersey" was again brought into service President Reagan made a speech at the ceremony. It was a very programatic speech, I would even say, very big and politically important. Reagan spoke of the U.S. intention to gain supremacy in the military sphere, access to all the world's oceans, control of the airspace above them, their surface and their depths. He said naval superiority was necessary to the United States, and the "New Jersey", the modernized "New Jersey", was to symbolize this very policy directed toward attaining naval superiority.

Incidentally, what did this modernization involve? "New Jersey" has guns of two calibers: 16-inch and somewhat smaller. The 16-inch guns fire shells weighing more than 1,200 kg. Some of "New Jersey's" smaller guns were replaced with launchers for Tomahawk missiles -- the same, by the way, that are being deployed in Europe -- missiles that can carry a nuclear warhead.

And it's this battleship that's now shelling Lebanon, shelling the positions of the Syrian troops that are there under mandate from the Arab states, shelling the positions of the national patriotic forces of Lebanon, on the actual outskirts of Beirut, shelling, you could say, in all directions. And when it was noted in West Europe that the order to open fire was given directly by Washington; this indicates that it's a purposeful policy of the United States.

[Kobysh] Just recently President Reagan said outright: I thought from the very beginning that we must use the "New Jersey's" guns to shell targets in Lebanon, but the military objected; I didn't want to argue with them, but it was clear to me from the start that these large-caliber naval guns should be used. He spoke with such confidence because he has absolutely no doubt that the U.S. course toward global terrorism, raised to the level of state policy, is absolutely justified. It's a reality -- and he has no doubts on that score at all. And that, of course, gives us the rest of the world plenty to think about.

Near East Situation Deplored

[Shishlin] Altogether, it seems to me that in the Near East, at present, everyone's losing. Above all, of course, it's the tragedy of Lebanon itself, because the country is being torn apart, the country is simply dying in sight of the whole world. Then, it's the continuing, agonizing tragedy of the Palestinians. These are, of course, events that directly affect the interests of Syria also. And how do the aggressors themselves look? I think that, in itself, this bloody orgy in Lebanon, perpetrated by Israel and now taken up by the United States, will also exact a certain price from the aggressors themselves. Israel is paying for it both in lives and material losses, and by the very grave condition of its own economy, which is dependent to an enormous degree on the financial support that is being given to Israel by the United States, and not by the United States alone. And as for the Americans themselves, by sliding into this new Vietnam, or whatever you like to call it -- all that is, of course, to some extent unrepeatable -- but nonetheless, by sliding into this new adventure, the United States, is not only doing itself no good in the eyes of public opinion -- they are losing, of course -- but they're also losing something in the eyes of the Arab states, however different in orientation. Because though the Arab countries are divided and differ in their positions, here they can only adopt a uniform attitude to the actions of the United States. Their reactions may not be the same; but that these U.S. actions are being condemned in the Arab world is a fact. And the Arabs, if they were united, of course have the capability to resist such a policy. And in the United States itself, especially in view of the forthcoming presidential elections, it's Lebanon, what's happening in Lebanon, that of course frightens many Americans.

[Levin] Incidentally, Nikolay Vladimirovich, here's something that illustrates what you've said. The ABC television company, jointly with THE WASHINGTON POST, conducted an opinion poll which showed that 50 percent of Americans don't approve of what President Reagan is doing in Lebanon.

[Shishlin] Let us ask ourselves what is the aim of the United States here, and I mean the short-term aim, not the long-term one. They would probably like to kick everyone and everything out of Lebanon and, in fact, turn Lebanon into a state that would be under the decisive influence of the United States, and one that would be compliant with Israel. And this aim can be seen, of course, in the attempt to breathe life into the defunct Camp David process. Basically, of course, it is a dead-end situation.

Let us assume that the present military action, which is of course being carried out by the United States on a limited scale, results in nothing -- and it will result in nothing -- then what next? Next there will be more massive military systems put into operation.

And where is the guarantee that these massive military systems will provide the required result? And, most important, how will this turn out politically? After all, there was a time, and we can remember it full well, in the 1970's when the Arabs acted in greater harmony and with greater coordination, when the steps that they took, for example, with regard to oil sales and oil exports, had extremely dramatic consequences. I think, Vitaliy Ivanovich, that in the United States at that time...

[Kobysh interrupting] Yes, I remember the lines of Americans in their cars waiting for hours for gasoline. That was a particularly difficult time.

[Shishlin] So that essentially the way out of the deadlock must be sought by political means.

Soviet-Finnish Ties Praised

[Levin] Yes, and in this connection I would like to note that it is not enough to speak simply of a striving for a dialogue; the striving must be backed up, during such a dialogue, with a search for mutually-acceptable solutions. The declarations by the United States and U.S. politicians about their readiness for dialogue with the Soviet Union are numerous, but they are not backed up. At the same time, the Soviet Union demonstrates very clearly, precisely, and consistently that we not only continue, but also actively develop our dialogue with those who are looking for solutions and who want by joint efforts to provide an answer to today's vital problems. And in this connection I think that the visits paid this week to the Soviet Union by both Prime Minister Sorsa of Finland at the head of the Finnish part of the Soviet-Finnish Commission on Economic Cooperation, and Foreign Minister Vayrynen who held very thorough talks with Comrade Gromyko, were of very great political importance -- I would even say, in the present situation, particular political importance. We in the Soviet Union and Finland have a firm foundation for mutual relations: The 1948 treaty which was recently extended, before its expiry date, for another 20 years. And Minister Vayrynen noted that we extended that treaty for another 20 years and did not alter a single letter or a single comma in it, which shows that the people who drew up that treaty were able to look far ahead into the future. And this treaty, as Comrade Gromyko said, is a truly unique case of two states with different social systems building their relations on a reliable basis, not guided by short-term considerations, but consistently pursuing a course toward peace in Europe and throughout the world.

Mention could also be made of events this week such as Comrade Zhivkov's visit to India and GDR Foreign Minister Fischer's stay in Paris, which show the active policies of the socialist countries and their active desire for dialogue. And, of course, during Comrade Gromyko's talks with Varyrynen an important place was occupied by questions of European security; the question of a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe which was raised by Finland -- and incidentally we actively support that idea and are ready to give our guarantees for its implementation; and the question of the forthcoming conference in Stockholm.

Stockholm Conference Previewed

[Kobysh] The interest in that conference is growing, and it is a twofold interest. On one hand, the West is deliberately exaggerating the importance of that conference and is intentionally distorting the meaning of the work that is to be done there. It is being passed off as a disarmament conference, replacing, as it were, to some degree the Geneva talks on medium-range nuclear weapons that were broken off. This is a piece of political diversion, a deliberate attempt so to speak, to delude public opinion. The reality is, however, that the Stockholm conference which is to discuss confidence-building measures, under the present circumstances of a very tense situation, of course acquires importance as a serious forum. But to what degree it will be used, we shall see.

Much here again will depend on the West. As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, we are going into the conference full of good will and the desire to make concrete decisions on the question of confidence-building measures there will be a direct path to concrete talks on disarmament and arms race limitation. To sum up, in Stockholm in January there are to be serious talks, and our country is going into those talks with all our good intentions and all our constructive initiatives.

Prospects for Talks Resumption

[Shishlin] Here it is probably worth mentioning that there is a lot of talk now about when the Soviet-U.S. talks will be resumed. I don't think that anyone could answer that question now, since the talks that were being held were wrecked by the United States and the foundation for those talks has disappeared. For the talks to be resumed there needs to be a strong, striking and effective example of good will; and in fact the outline for this example was given in the statement by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov. It is clear that if the state of affairs were to return to the time when there were no U.S. missiles on the territory of Western Europe, then the Soviet Union would resume its constructive efforts aimed at finding a reasonable compromise.

I would like to say that peace is dependent not only on Soviet-U.S. relations. Sometimes, taking into account the importance of Soviet-U.S. relations, people look through that prism alone to see what will happen. In fact, however, there are many countries in the world, and a more independent voice from those countries, including the European countries, the West European countries, and the NATO countries -- I repeat, a more independent voice, including at the Stockholm conference, may -- who knows -- change the situation for the better. Although if one speaks frankly, today's phase in the development of international relations is a far from simple one, and it will remain so tomorrow. But in this tense and stormy climate today one can, of course, make out and perceive elements of ozone which owe their being to the purposeful peace-loving policy of the socialist states, the active and growing antiwar and antimissile movement, and in the growth of elements of realism in various political forces in the Western countries.

[Levin] And at this point we draw to a close. Thank you, esteemed comrades, for listening, and all the best.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS'

LD161818 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1315 GMT 16 Dec 83

["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program with Viktor Anikin, foreign policy commentator of All-Union Radio; Radomir Georgiyevich Bogdanov, deputy director of the Institute of the USA and Canada of the USSR Academy of Sciences; and Konstantin Ivanovich Semenov, candidate of historical sciences]

U.S. Strategic Production Hit

[Excerpts] [Anikin] The first question is for you, Radomir Georgiyevich. Most letters addressed to our program express the profound concern of listeners at the intensification of international tension, the main source of which are U.S. imperialist circles. The sharply increased bellicosity of the ruling clique in America is condemned by our regular listeners (Tyutrin) from Orekhovo-Zuyevo, (Makarov) from Krivozerye Village in Penza Oblast, Tyukalov from Votkinsk City, Udmart ASSR, a group of pensioners from Sverdlovsk, Comrade (Stogov) from Gorkiy, (Belov) from Ivanov, (Savvin) from Ryazan, (Cherevikova) from Krasnodar, (Bolshayev) from the Bashkir town of Kumirtau and many, many others.

They rightly point out that not for a long time has such a stepping up of activities by the proponents of the hard line on the international scene been seen in the United States. What are they aiming for, and with what methods? This question is contained in many letters that I am addressing to you, Radomir Georgiyevich.

[Bogdanov] Well now, Viktor Viktorovich, perhaps at no time in the post-war period so far has the situation on the world scene been so tense as at present. The situation is inflamed, and inflamed thoroughly. The reason for this is clear to all peace-loving forces: it is the militarist course of the U.S. Administration. The essence of it, not taking account of the interests of other states and peoples, is to try to ensure for the United States the dominant position in the world. And it must be said that one of the characteristics of the Reagan administration's military policy is that for the first time all types of strategic weapons are being simultaneously put into production. Exceptions are not being made for a single component of the strategic forces. The new MX intercontinental ballistic missile, the new B-1b strategic bomber, the most up-to-date Ohio-Trident class submarine have been put into production; long-range cruise missiles have already been installed in the first squadrons of heavy bombers; the idea of even newer ICBM's -- the Midgetman -- is already on the drawing-board; creation of the Stealth bomber, with the use of up-to-date antiradar technology, is being forced ahead; creation of the Trident II sea-based strategic missile with enhanced range and accuracy is being completed. As well as this, plans have been announced to create a broad-scale space system of antimissile defense. It is noteworthy that despite some opposition from the country's public and from Congress, the Reagan administration does not want to restrict a single one of these programs in any way, just as it does not intend to reduce its existing strategic programs. At the same time, work is in progress on a wide front to create qualitatively new conventional methods of warfare -- high-accuracy weapons, intelligence-strike complexes, weapons based on new physical principles, and others.

I should like to add to this that high-ranking American representatives are openly declaring that NATO nuclear weapons are still the basic strike means, and that the bloc's command will, in certain conditions, use it first against the countries of the Warsaw Pact. Activity in all parts of the world by the Washington militarists shows that they have directly embarked on the creation of a global military coalition directed against the Soviet Union and the socialist community as a whole.

This is the answer of the peace-makers across the sea to the USSR's decision to make the unilateral pledge to refrain from being the first to use nuclear weapons, and also to many other peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and other countries of the Warsaw Pact. The Reagan administration, having launched its crusade against communism, has set as its aim breaking the parity of forces between the two world systems which has come about historically; it intends to trample on the fundamental principle of equality and identical security.

[Anikin] What is Washington doing to further these aims?

[Bogdanov] The American side is now trying to violate already signed agreements on adhering to what is known as the principle of equal rights and limits. There emerges from this principle a requirement for some sort of direct parity between the United States and the Soviet Union in all types of weapons in all geographical areas. However, the American zone, where no Soviet weapons are allowed, is naturally excluded. In Washington's view, this so-called right to parity American-style should be recognized irrespective of the presence of analogous weapons in other countries of their bloc, for example the British and French weapons. Such an apology for a concept excludes in advance even the very possibility of the Soviet Union being able to strive for genuine parity.

I should like to say, Viktor Viktorovich, that the most dangerous thing for the cause of peace today is the deployment of new American medium-range nuclear missiles in West Europe. They are already being brought from the United States to European soil. In the coming days these missiles will be placed on combat duty in Britain, the FRG and Italy. In this way the deployment of new nuclear weapons on the territory of a number of West European countries has become a fait accompli. By its actions the United States has wrecked the possibility of achieving mutually acceptable accord at the talks on limiting nuclear weapons in Europe. In the conditions that have been created the Soviet Union considers its further participation in them impossible. The USSR's position in connection with this aggressive action by the United States and some NATO countries, was clearly sent out in the statement by Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, of 24 November 1983. This important political document concentrates the united view, the united will of our party and of the entire Soviet people, their adamant resolve to give due response to the adventurist, militarist policy of the present U.S. Administration and the NATO bloc.

[Anikin] Such a policy by the White House cannot but have an effect on the state of Soviet-American relations.

[Bogdanov] Gambling on military preparations with the aim of achieving military superiority over the Soviet Union so as then to dictate its will to the Soviet Union has become the pivot of the Republican administration's domestic and external policy. This policy has an extremely negative effect on Soviet-American relations. It erodes the basis for trust between the two countries which has been built up over a period of many years. The atmosphere surrounding the relations themselves is being inflamed. The United States' position on the main problems of today -- disarmament more than anything else -- demonstrates the lack of sincerity and falseness of the utterances by the highest American leadership on its adherence to peace. One has to have a rare cynicism to conduct such a policy and still try to accuse the Soviet Union of presenting a military threat. History knows few examples where the state policy of such a big country as the United States was based consciously, as is now being done under the present administration, on the purposeful and active utilization of the big lie, on sophisticated juggling with facts and unceremonious distortion of facts. The negativism permeating U.S. foreign policy since the start of the eighties has led to the present administration essentially erasing the basis of mutual relations that both sides undertook to follow 11 years ago: all the 12 principles to which the U.S. President affixed his signature have been crossed out, while the number of functioning Soviet-American agreements in specific areas of bilateral cooperation has been almost halved over the past 3-4 years through the fault of the American side. And it must be said, Viktor Viktorovich, that it is an unattractive spectacle when the American leaders, having set as their aim to blacken another people, are resorting almost to foul language mixed up with Pharisaical preaching about morality and humanity.

Rivalry in producing and accumulating mass destruction weapons is not our way. Moving down that road makes it impossible to solve a single problem -- neither economic development nor conservation of the environment, nor creation of simply elementary conditions of life for people -- food, health and education. On the contrary, the struggle for freeing material resources is being senselessly wasted on the arms race and the smothering of man's inexhaustible creative potential which can unite people, which should determine the policy of states at the turn of the 20th and 21st centuries.

Cyprus Events Causing 'Tension'

[Anikin] Thank you, Radomir Georgiyevich. Technical college student (Aleksandr Prechev) from Astrakhan and Comrade (Ponomarev) from the Krasnoarmeyskiy settlement in Krasnodar Kray are interested in the situation on Cyprus, which has become even more complicated following the recent declaration of a separate Turkish state in the north of the island.

The specific question Asked is whether the Cyprus crisis has really come about because of differences between the Greek and Turkish communities? In answering this, one has to point out that at first glance that is how matters appear to be. However, intercommunal differences lie only on the surface, as it were, and disguise the real reasons and real culprits of the crisis situation on Cyprus. The point is that these differences were artificially created and subsequently inflated by external imperialist forces who interfered and continue to interfere in the island republic's internal affairs. After all, it is worth recalling that Greeks and Turks have lived on Cyprus side by side for centuries, and no serious discord existed between them. And they fought together, too, for the independence of their homeland against British colonial dominion. In 1960 there appeared on the world map the independent Republic of Cyprus, which chose a foreign policy course of nonalignment and struggle against imperialism and colonialism. However, it was not to the liking of the imperialist circles of NATO. These circles, who sought to turn the island into a bridgehead for the bloc in a stategically important part of the eastern Mediterranean, banked on undermining and eventually eliminating the independent Cypriot state. To achieve their ends, they resorted to the tactic of destablizing the internal political situation on Cyprus by kindling distrust and strife between the Greek and Turkish communities. Under their instigation and encouragement, the activities of extremist elements, supporters of so-called "Enosis" -- the unification of Cyprus with Greece -- were intensified. Acting on instructions from outside, they provoked an armed conflict at the end of 1963 between the Greek and Turkish populations of the island republic. Since then, alienation and differences between the two communities have deepened, promoted by both disguised and overt interference by the NATO countries in the affairs of Cyprus. In 1974 this was manifested in the organization of an antigovernment putsch and also the subsequent invasion of Turkish forces into the northern parts of the island. As is known, these regions -- that is, around 40 percent of the territory of Cyprus -- remain occupied. In these conditions, the leadership of the Turkish community has been ever more openly demonstrating its separatist aspirations. It carried out the resettlement of Turkish Cypriots into the occupied zone and in 1975 set up the so-called Turkish Federal State of Cyprus.

Our listeners also ask why the declaration of a Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus last month is seen as a more dangerous and provocative act thatn the action taken by the leaders of the Turkish community in 1975. We answer that question. The action taken 8 years ago, despite its negative character, still did not signify a clear refusal by the Turkish Cypriot leaders to settle the Cyprus problem at intercommunal talks under the aegis of the United Nations, inasmuch as the participants in that dialogue were agreed in principle on the idea of transforming Cyprus into a bi-zonal federation. Moreover, the self-styled stateformation was then referred to as autonomous which implied its inclusion in a unified Cypriot state.

All this made it possible to continue intercommunal negotiations on the basis of the UN resolution in support of the unity, independence and sovereignty and policy of nonalignment of the Republic of Cyprus. A month ago, when the leadership of the Turkish community declared an independent state in the north of the island, that was rightly seen by the Cyprus Government and people and also by the international community as a blatant violation of the UN resolution, undermining the foundations of intercommunal dialogue and putting Cyprus on the brink of division. In essence, the recent step by the Turkish Cypriot leaders not only consolidates the effective partition of the country but is also an attempt to legitimize it in terms of international law. The Soviet Union resolutely condemned this action. It firmly advocates the preservation of a unified and territorially-integral Cyprus state and considers that the Cypriots can and should settle their internal differences themselves as long as outside interference in their affairs ceases. The imperialist circles carrying out this interference bear responsibility for the dangerous crisis on Cyprus and for the creation of a seat of tension in the Mediterranean.

U.S.-Japanese Cooperation Hit

[Anikin] Our regular listener (Tyukalov) from the town of Votkinsk, Udmurt ASSR, and also Comrades (Kozniyenko) from Khabarovsk, (Tobonov) from Ulan-Ude and (Kyzymchuk) from Chita, ask us to describe the foreign policy of the present Japanese Government and the knocking-together of a new aggressive bloc with the participation of the United States, Japan and South Korea, as well as the unfounded territorial claims of the Japanese ruling circles.

Speaking in the Japanese Diet during his recent visit to Japan, U.S. President Reagan described Japan as America's closest and biggest ally in Asia. And Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone, during the Japanese-U.S. talks last month in Tokyo, reiterated more than once that Japan is the United States' unsinkable aircraft-carrier. Both these remarks attest to the closest military-political cooperation between these two countries as well as to the fact that the present Japanese Government is obediently following U.S. policy, which is extremely dangerous for all people of the world.

As noted in the statement by Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, efforts are being made to speed up the regeneration of Japanese militarism and Japan's incorporation into the military-political machine of the North Atlantic bloc. Washington is also striving to use Japan as its apprentice in Asia, in every way pushing it into building up its military muscles and into rearmament as quickly as possible although, as is known, the postwar Japanese Constitution prohibits this. And one must say that all these plans meet with full understanding in Japan's ruling circles. Of course, one must immediately qualify this by saying that the military-political cooperation of the two mightiest powers of the capitalist world is far from trouble-free, as official U.S. and Japanese propaganda tries to make out. A bitter trade war is being waged between these two countries. Obviously, too, Tokyo is far from pleased at the prospect of constantly being considered among Washington's junior partners and of pulling burning chestnuts out of the fire for the transoceanic uncle. Japanese ruling circles have their own far-reaching plans with regard to the dominating role of the land of the rising sun in Asia. But Japan is incapable of embarking upon their implementation on its own at present. This is the reason why, despite the existing sharp economic differences between the two countries, the United States and Japan find common language in the sphere of military-political cooperation. On Japanese territory at present there are more different Pentagon installations than in any other country -- 125. Japanese ruling circles give the impression that they have forgotten the harsh lessons of the past and, in breach of their own Constitution, are intensively regenerating the country's military might -- or, as Tokyo statesmen like to put it, ensuring that Japan's armed forces correspond to its powerful economy. Although, as we already know, the present so-called Japanese Self-Defense Force, in terms of its strike power, is far superior to the Imperial Army during World War II even now.

U.S. Seeks 'Pacific Ocean Bloc'

Particular alarm is now caused in Asian countries by U.S. attempts to knock together a so-called Pacific Ocean bloc. Talks on setting it up were held by President Reagan during his recent visit to Japan and South Korea. According to reports in the Japanese press, there is already talk about drawing up specific terms for this pact. Implementation of these dangerous plans is being obstructed not only by independent Asian states but also by broadest sections of the Japanese public. It is no accident that Japan at present, like the countries of West Europe, has been gripped by powerful antimissile and antinuclear demonstrations. Incidentally, Washington is now practically talking and writing openly about the desirability and expediency of deploying American Pershings and Tomahawks in Japan, following the example of West Europe.

In conclusion, a word about the territorial claims of Japanese ruling circles with regard to the Soviet Union. Our radio listeners, incidentally, quite rightly describe them as totally unfounded. After all, no so-called territorial issue exists between our country and Japan. The absurd claims brought up from time to time by various Japanese officials, including Prime Minister Nakasone, are nothing but attempts at playing up to Washington and kindling anti-Soviet sentiments. Genuine good-neighborliness and mutually advantageous cooperation with the Soviet Union is the path that is persistently being advocated by the broadest sections of the Japanese people.

USSR-Indonesia Trade Prospects

(Dmitriy Antonovich Zhemchug), a school-teacher from Ivanofrankovskaya Oblast in the Ukraine, asks us to talk about Indonesia, particularly about the internal situation in that country. He also asks at what level are relations between Indonesia and the USSR in various areas. To start with, the internal situation: Following the coup d'etat of 1965-67, as you know, progressive public organizations were banned in the country, including the Communist Party, and their members were subjected to repressions. Since then the leading political force in Indonesia has been the Army. This was enshrined in official government doctrine on the so-called dual role of the Armed Forces, in accordance with which representatives of the Army carry out not only purely military tasks, but also occupy virtually all the key posts in the state and economic apparatus. The Army has reserved for itself 100 of the 460 seats in parliament, the Council of People's Representatives. As well as this, the military is also closely connected with the organization of functional groups, which in Indonesia is called Golkar, which has an absolute majority in parliament. This is an abbreviation for the expression Golongan Karya, which means in translation functional groups. Golkar contains various professional, cooperative, youth. women's and other organizations supporting the government program. In economics, Indonesia is primarily an agrarian country. Over 70 percent of the population is engaged in agriculture. The labor productivity of the peasants is not high. Only in the past 2 years has the country basically been supplying the requirements for rice and other basic products from its internal sources. Overpopulation is high. More than 90 percent of the 180 million population has established itself in the relatively small island of Java, and now there are almost 700 people living there on every square kilometer.

Attempts to move even some of them to other islands have so far not had any special success. The main problem of Indonesian villages is the growing rate of peasants losing their land. Hundreds of thousands of people each year add to the already huge army of jobless. Indonesia has rich mineral deposits, of which copper and tin are the most efficiently extracted. But the economic crisis that has gripped the world capitalist system has also had a grave effect on Indonesia. As a result, the country's foreign debt this year amounted to almost $18 billion, not even including the debts of private companies. In these conditions the Indonesian press increasingly frequently refers to the need to develop trade and economic relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. The JAKARTA POST, for example, recently wrote of the existence of a basis for business relations between our countries. The Soviet Union, it says in the article, is interested precisely in those goods whose export Indonesia would like to expand. Certain moves in that direction were acheived during the visit to Jakarta at the end of September by a Soviet trade delegation.

U.S. ADMINISTRATION 'FLOUTING' HUMAN RIGHTS

PM151708 Moscow PRAVDA in Russain 10 Dec First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "The Main Human Right"]

[Text] Today is Human Rights Day, proclaimed by the United Nations.

The historic achievements by the land of the soviets convincingly confirm that only socialism ensures the implementation of human rights. "In our country, just as, incidentally everywhere else that power has been transferred into the hands of the working class and the working people," Comrade Yu. V. Andropov has noted, "this has signified the triumph of democracy in the most literal and most accurate sense of the word -- the true victory of people's power. The people of labor have finally acquired rights and freedoms which capitalism has always denied and still denies to them, if not formally, then in practice."

The profound democracy of the Soviet state of the whole people has found its embodiment in the USSR Constitution. It proclaims and guarantees both extensive social rights -- the rights to work, rest, housing, education, medical assistance, material provisions for old age, and enjoyment of cultural achievements -- and political freedoms -- of speech, of the press, of conscience, of assembly, and of the right to elect and be elected.

Power in our country belongs to the people. Vivid proof of people's power in action is provided by the working people's active participation in the management of state and public affairs and by the truly democratic composition of the soviets of people's deputies, from local soviets to the USSR Supreme Soviet, which consist of over 2 million deputies representing the working people. Soviet people know that concern for the fullest satisfaction of their material and spiritual needs and the ensuring of the working people's rights and freedoms are the main goal and component of the policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state.

What can be offered against the real achievements of developed socialism by even the most zealous proponents of capitalist principles? In the United States and the other leading countries the rights of working people are crudely trampled while all privileges are concentrated in the hands of the bourgeoisie. This is proved by the harsh fate of tens of millions of people who are deprived there of an inalienable human right -- the right to work.

Dual oppression -- social and racial -- discrimination, and inequality have been and remain the lot of several million Americans -- Negroes, Indians, and other national minorities. A severe indictment of the society of lack of rights is contained in the official statistical report, according to which at present over 34 million people, or 15 percent of the population in this richest country in the capitalist world, are living in poverty. The large-scale offensive by reactionary forces against the social gains and civil rights of working people and against the freedom of the individual in the United States is indicated by the cruel suppression of strikes, persecution of progressive figures, victimization of peace movement activists, and total shadowing of dissidents by special services. It is thus no accident that to this day the United States has declined to accede to international conventions on economic, social, cultural, and also civil and political human rights, to which most states are parties.

U.S. imperialism behaves in the international arena as a suppressor of human rights and of peoples' freedom and independence. The incumbent U. S. Administration has elevated terrorism to the status of state policy openly, in the shape of a "new doctrine." The armed U.S. intervention in Grenada, the acts of undeclared war against Nicaragua and the people's revolutionary forces in El Salvador, the subversive operations against Cuba, Angola, Afghanistan, and other countries, the expanding intervention in Lebanon -- all these are links in a single chain of violence and tyranny. The U.S. ruling circles encourage the genocide being perpetrated against the Palestinian people and other Arab peoples by the Israeli Zionists, give their blessing to the apartheid regime in South Africa, and support the bloody Pinochet dictatorship and other anti-people regimes.

Profound alarm and determined protest is generated among the peoples by U.S. imperialism's desire to lead mankind toward the abyss of nuclear war.

Is the Washington Administration's course of unprecedented escalation of war preparations, fanning rabid anticommunism and anti-Sovietism, and stepping up tension in various parts of the world not a flouting of the main human right, the right to life? A special danger for the cause of peace is posed by the stubborn attempts by the U.S. ruling circles to disrupt the military-strategic equilibrium in Europe and all over the world by starting to site U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in a number of West European countries.

In a situation when U.S. militarist is posing a grave threat to universal security, it is more obvious than ever before that the safeguarding of human rights is inseparable from the persistent and incessant struggle to safeguard peace, and that the foremost task today is to erect a reliable and insuperable barrier in the path of the nuclear maniacs.

Aware of its historic responsibility for mankind's fate, the USSR, together with the other socialist countries, counters U.S. militarism with a course of strengthening peace, curbing the arms race, and easing tension, and acts as the staunchest defender of healthy principles in international relations.

The USSR's foreign policy expresses the vital interests of the Soviet people and the interests of all who hold dear the ideals of peace. Forced to take measures in response to the attempts by the United States and NATO to exert military pressure on the socialist countries, the Soviet Union does not seek military superiority but is doing only what is absolutely necessary to prevent the disruption of the military equilibrium. As before, it advocates the most radical solution for the question of nuclear arms in Europe and remains an adherent to the principled course of ending the arms race, primarily the nuclear arms race, and reducing and, in the final analysis, fully eliminating the threat of nuclear war.

The supreme humanism of Soviet socialist society lies in the fact that our motherland has become a true bulwark of peace on earth. All who today raise their voice against nuclear madness are convinced with their own eyes that the CPSU and the Soviet state are doing and will continue to do everything to preserve peace for present and future generations and to defend the most precious human right -- the right to life.

NONALIGNED MOVEMENT ROLE VIEWED AT CONFERENCE

PM161017 IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Scientific-Theoretical Conference"]

[Text] Under present conditions the Nonaligned Movement has become an important factor in international relations. It has a great role in resolving the main problem of the present day -- strengthening peace and the peoples' security and thwarting the aggressive plans of the United States and its allies. This was said at a scientific-theoretical conference entitled "The Nonaligned Movement and the Modern World" which ended at the USSR Foreign Ministry's Moscow State Institute of International Relations on 14 December.

Soviet economists, lawyers, sociologists, historians, and diplomats took part in the conference's work. A report was delivered to the conference by K.N. Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Section.

U.S., NATO DISSENT ON UN NUCLEAR RESOLUTION HIT

LD161639 TASS in English 1548 GMT 16 Dec 83

["Resolutions of the U.N. General Assembly" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow December 16 TASS -- TASS political analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

The U.N. General Assembly adopted by the majority of votes a number of resolutions which belong to a group of large-scale U.N. actions aimed at removing the threat of a nuclear war. In the first place, the General Assembly endorsed the resolution on denouncing the nuclear war as the most horrible of crimes that could be committed against peoples. The importance of this document cannot be overestimated, since it both expresses the concern of the whole of mankind over the nuclear threat looming large over it and denounces the war as being incompatible with the reason and conscience of man. The declaration will undoubtedly promote the formation of the political climate hampering the activities of the forces which are working out plans of the first use of nuclear weapons. Unfortunately, such forces exist, and it is noteworthy that the U.S. and its NATO allies opposed the declaration denouncing the nuclear war.

The denunciation of the nuclear war by the General Assembly was effectively complemented by the resolution on the freezing of nuclear arsenals, which in practice can serve as a basis for concrete steps aimed at curbing the nuclear arms race as a whole.

It goes without saying that these steps should be taken by all the states possessing nuclear weapons without exception. The idea of the nuclear arms freeze received broad support all over the world, since people regard the nuclear arms race as a real threat to peace and security of peoples.

It should be pointed out that, on its part, the Soviet Union has already expressed its readiness to carry out a plan under which the U.S. and the USSR would be the first to implement qualitative and quantitative nuclear arms freeze on a bilateral basis, as an example to be followed by other nuclear powers. These measures would considerably increase the degree of confidence between the countries possessing nuclear weapons and would make it possible to move forward -- to a complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

The Soviet Union supports these and other documents of the General Assembly aimed at curbing the nuclear arms race, using all the methods at its disposal, with the help of its peaceful foreign policy course.

The Soviet Union is the initiator of a number of basic documents and proposals approved by the General Assembly at the current session. All this shows that the policy pursued by the USSR reflects heartfelt aspirations of peoples who want to live in conditions of peace and cooperation.

However, the incumbent Washington administration and some of its NATO allies cling to power politics and strive, in the first place, to be stronger than anybody else in order to solve problems only from the position of strength. As for the Soviet Government, it has never had any doubt as to what line is to be followed in the present-day tense international situation: the Soviet policy continues to be aimed at preserving and consolidating peace, at detente, the curbing of the arms race and the expansion and deepening of cooperation between states. Only on this basis can peace be preserved on our planet.

U.S. STANCE ON SEA LAW 'DIRECT CHALLENGE' TO UN

LD151555 Moscow TASS in Englihs 1408 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] New York December 15 TASS -- The U.N. General Assembly has adopted a resolution stressing the historic significance of the Convention of the Law of the Sea as an important contribution to the preservation of peace and to the cause of justice and progress in the interests of all nations.

The drafting of this first ever all-embracing "Charter of the Sea," one governing the use of the expanses and resources of two thirds of the earth's surface, was concluded a year ago. Since then it has been signed by 132 states, i.e. an absolute majority of U.N. member-nations.

In its resolution the General Assembly expresses satisfaction with the broad international recognition of the convention and rejects any attempts to do it harm. The Assembly pointed to the importance of keeping this major international document indivisible and urged all states to refrain from any actions aimed at a selective use of the Convention's provisions contrary to its tasks and aims.

As a matter of fact, the provisions of this resolution are directed against the attempts of the USA to undermine the Convention on the Law of the Sea. Washington resents its provisions for international control over the mining of mineral resources on the seabed beyond areas under national jurisdiction. American monopolies would prefer to divide the international region of the seabed according to a purely colonial principle -- by the "right" of the strong.

The convention represents a "package" of compromise provisions worked out in the course of almost 15-year negotiations. But the present American Administration would like to enjoy all rights under the convention while assuming no obligations.

Such selfish claims were resolutely rejected during the discussion of the resolution. Tommy Koh [name as received] (Singapore), president of the latest session of the third U.N. Conference on the Law of the Sea, said that any attempts by an individual state or a group of states to begin mining minerals on the seabed in the international region of the ocean will arouse the indignation of the entire world community of nations and will have most serious political and legal consequences.

The American press reported on the plans by Washington and its closest Western allies to draft their own "miniconventions" that would delimit the spheres of operation of their own corporations.

V.L. Oleandrov, the Soviet delegate, said that the attempts by the USA to take some provisions out of the Convention and to push aside others are directed against the legitimate interests of other states and represent a challenge to the United Nations. Such actions are nothing else but an attempt to create chaos in the questions of the use of the sea and to undermine the foundations of international cooperation and peace on the seas.

The United States actually found itself in complete isolation in the UNO because of its attempts to sabotage the Convention by voting against the resolution. Turkey was the only country that voted together with the USA against the resolution. The resolution was supported by 136 states with six abstentions.

REAGAN VIEWS CYNICISM, HYPOCRISY AS 'VIRTUES'

PM190940 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Dec 83 First Edition p 7

[S. Demidov "Rejoinder": "Traditions...of Brigandage"]

[Text] There are traditions and traditions. The U.S. President, for instance, believes that his administration is continuing the American people's best traditions. He stated this without false modesty a few days ago at a meeting with servicemen, bearers of the top military decoration of the United States -- the Medal of Honor.

According to the boss of the White House, "from Grenada to Lebanon, from the DMZ in Korea to the NATO boundaries in Europe young Americans are preserving and multiplying the glorious traditions of their predecessors." And further: "With the best intentions, we (that is, the present Washington administration -- S.D.) have tried to forge our swords into plowshares, hoping others will follow this example." So that's it! It turns out that everything is remarkably very simple -- the Pentagon carries into the Old World nuclear Pershing II and cruise missiles to "convince" the international public of its peacefulness, soldiers from the U.S. Marine Corps do not trample underfoot rights and liberties, they do not lynch Grenadian patriots, they just "multiply the traditions." Ships of the 6th Fleet do not conduct bombardments, planes with American identification marks do not bomb peaceful settlements in Lebanon, but "ensure peace and tranquillity" in that long-suffering country.

Seemingly, Reagan views cynicism and hypocrisy as virtues -- his pharisaism has no limits. He seeks to present fist methods of maintaining "order, American style," as acceptable and justifiable.

How many bandit actions does the American Administration have to undertake to "tame", in its own way, the whole world? This is exactly the aim that has been set by the latter-day "crusaders" from the shores of the Potomac.

Examples of Reagan 'Hypocrisy'

LD170647 Moscow TASS in English 2247 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] New York December 16 TASS -- To hear the present tenant of the White House speak entire America and even the whole world must praise him day and night for his tireless care for universal prosperity and peace.

It is due to us that a sense of purpose has appeared again in the U.S. foreign policy, Reagan told without undue modesty a group of journalists of Gannett Newspaper Trust. Now that we pray for peace on earth the hopes for it are stronger than in many years, he said.

According to Reagan, it is precisely for peaceful purposes that the United States staged piratic seizure of sovereign Grenada, the action which prominent American historian A. Schlesinger compared to the policy of Hitler Germany and militaristic Japan during World War Two. But Reagan, without batting an eyelid describes that action of international brigandage as "a nation's liberation", with feigned grief he sheds crocodile tears over U.S. brasshats whom he sent to that tiny island in the Caribbean to overthrow a government that did not suit Washington and who met their death on Grenadian land.

The hypocrisy of the chief of the White House is truly unlimited. What is the worth of his words that he even became sleepless after issuing an order to start the invasion of Grenada. Reagan, who is mainly to blame for the Grenadian tragedy, said sentimentally he "felt much worse" than the relatives of the deceased.

According to him the U.S. armed venture in Lebanon was also aimed at the "consolidation of peace" and Washington's all-out backing for the dictatorial regimes in Central America that conduct the policy of genocide against their own peoples is described by the U.S. President as "strengthening of democratic leadership".

One can only be surprised at the criminal ease with which Washington hypocrites juggle with the notions of "democracy", "freedom" and "peace" in an effort to whitewash their policy of armed ventures.

REAGAN CHRISTMAS MESSAGE SETS 'RECORD FOR LYING'

LD181824 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 18 Dec 83

[Commentary by Vladimir Tsvetov, political observer for Central Television and All-Union Radio]

[Text] Up to now records for lying have been set during wars, before elections and after hunting. U.S. President Reagan has added the pre-Christmas holiday period to this list. In a message to U.S. troops the President paid tribute to them for serving, as Reagan put it, in the name of maintaining peace from the furthest point of Alaska to the shores of Lebanon and to the DMZ in Korea.

In a society where might is right and justice is powerless, Aesopian language has wide currency. When Reagan speaks of peace he means order created on American terms and for American interests, as in Grenada, which Reagan could easily have included in his list of points on the map where U.S. troops are maintaining peace, as Reagan puts it.

However, the geographical list provided by Reagan in his Christmas message is quite sufficient to illustrate the U.S. concept of peace. U.S. soldiers are defending peace at the furthest point of Alaska, Reagan said, and indeed it was from there that the espionage operation into Soviet airspace by a U.S. reconnaissance aircraft and the South Korean Boeing started. The actions of U.S. intelligence, which worsened an already-tense international atmosphere, were in full accordance with the principles set out by an American theorist in the sphere of foreign policy. This principle runs as follows: Sovereignty damages peace among peoples.

The Christmas message mentions the shores of Lebanon. There the service of U.S. servicemen in the name of peace consists of shelling Lebanese soil with naval guns and bombing it from carrier-borne aircraft.

The historian (Schumann), whose thoughts, as everything indicates, sustain Reagan's practices, declared: Conquest is the only method mankind has yet found to bring political reality to the idea of community among people.

In his message Reagan mentioned the DMZ in Korea. Not so long ago he was there himself. He had a look through some binoculars at the DPRK, compelling all to remember 1950 and John Foster Dulles, subsequently U.S. secretary of state, who also made an excursion to these places, binoculars in hand. Not long after that trip, war broke out on the Korean peninsula.

The President wished U.S. troops a peaceful and merry Christmas. This wish sounded like a mockery, for to Reagan peace is no more than a pause between wars.

U.S. 'PERSECUTION MANIA', 'HYSTERIA' 'ARTIFICIAL'

LD162153 Moscow TASS in English 1740 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 16 TASS -- TASS commentator Vadim Biryukov writes:

The persecution mania in Washington is assuming an epidemic scope. After "ground-to-air" missiles had been installed in the garden of the White House a few days ago, talk about a need of emergency measures for combatting terrorism was also started in the Pentagon.

The UPI news agency quotes spokesman for the U.S. Defence Ministry Michael Burch as saying that hardly a day passes without the Pentagon being threatened by terrorists. According to him, bombs are mentioned quite often. Therefore, he announced that from now on high U.S. military will be brought to the Pentagon in special buses.

It should be noted that they in the U.S. Department of Defence prefer not to make references to concrete facts which would attest to the encroachments on the security of the pentagonal office building situation on the bank of the Potomac. Is this accidental? Most probably, it is not. Hardly anyone threatens in earnest to set off bombs to hit the U.S. brasshats and to explode the White House. It is simply that script writers from the Reagan "team" are trying artificially to create an atmosphere of war hysteria. For if no one threatens state insitutions in the American capital it is difficult to convince tax-payers of the need to spend huge sums on combatting the non-existent enemy.

U.S. NUCLEAR STOCKPILE GROWTH ESTIMATE CITED

LD190756 Moscow TASS in English 0734 GMT 19 Dec 83

[Text] Washington December 19 TASS -- The stockpiles of nuclear weapons in the United States will grow by about 13 per cent in the next five years to exceed 29,000 warheads. This estimate was provided by experts of the Institute of Political Studies and the Natural Resources Defense Council in their newly-published nuclear weapons databook. The scientists believe that the new nuclear warheads will be mounted on missiles of various types, bombers and submarines and adapted to be fired by long-range artillery.

The book said that the U.S. nuclear arsenals today number some 26,000 to 27,000 warheads.

TASS REPORTS UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TEST IN NEVADA

LD172052 Moscow TASS in English 2042 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Text] San Francisco December 17 TASS -- The United States started another underground test of a nuclear device at the testing range in the State of Nevada. The UPI news agency reports thatthe blast power was from 20 to 150 kilotons.

In the current year it is already a 15th announced test of nuclear weapons in U.S. territory and a 616th undergound nuclear test since 1951, the news agency says.

'FANTASTIC' DEFENSE BUDGET SHOWS U.S. INTENTIONS

PM161539 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Dec 83 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent G. Vasilyev dispatch: "The Bared Teeth of the Military Budget"]

[Text] Washington, 11 Dec -- Washington "hawks" had not yet finished celebrating their victory on Capitol Hill -- a record Pentagon budget for fiscal 1984 to the tune of $280 billion -- when "pushers" of the military-industrial complex set about preparing Congress for still greater, downright fantastic spending on military needs. As THE WASHINGTON POST reports, even worldly Republic senators were "staggered" when Defense Secretary Weinberger recently made public the rough drafts of the military budget for fiscal 1985. According to him, the Reagan administration intends to ask the legislators for $55 billion more than in the military budget just adopted for the current fiscal year. If this "proposal" gets through Congress -- and administration spokesmen hint that it is not final and it may still be possible to haggle over the details -- then spending on militarist preparations will have jumped 20 percent in a year!

Under the present U.S. Administration the growth rate of appropriations to the Pentagon has been increased to 12-14 percent a year. The size of the last military budget of Carter's previous administration has already been exceeded twice over. Over the past 3 years the Pentagon has received approximately $740 billion, and in the next 5 years (1985-1989) military appropriations will total $2 trillion.

The desire to satisfy at all costs the insatiable appetite of the ogre of war is accompanied by reductions in the already-cut appropriations for social needs and is causing long-term harm to peaceful sectors of the economy. Despite all this, it is impossible to make ends meet. The federal budget deficit, which R. Reagan promised to eliminate while still a presidential candidate, totaled approximately $200 billion in fiscal 1983.

Programs for the accelerated deployment of qualitatively new arms systems and a buildup of war preparations in all directions lie behind the figures of the Pentagon's inflated budget. And behind these lies the White House policy aimed at achieving U.S. military superiority over the USSR and NATO superiority over the Warsaw Pact Organization. The unprecedented size of the U.S. military budget reflects the dangerous aspirations of the present U.S. leaders, who are obsessed with the illusory idea of world supremacy.

Reports of record "additions" to the military budget planned by the Pentagon appeared in the pages of local newspapers at the same time as the U.S. Administration once again tackled active propaganda indoctrination of the public in an endeavor to convince it of its "love of peace." The point is that many Americans are profoundly concerned at the growing complexity of the international situation resulting from the deployment of new nuclear missiles which has begun in West Europe and the U.S. wrecking of the Geneva talks on limiting nuclear arms in Europe. Seeking to dispel this valid alarm, the White House is endeavoring to calm people by arguing that not only will the missile deployment not fundamentally alter the situation in Europe but quite the reverse -- it precisely after this that "businesslike Soviet-American talks," which may lead to positive solutions, will begin. The new data on the planned increase in U.S. military appropriations highlight the entire spuriousness of the American Administration's "peacemaking" phraseology. They show more convincingly than any words that the search for sensible accords on curbing the arms race does not enter into Washington's intentions and that the U.S. Administration's policy remains as before -- a militarist one.

REAGAN-TRUDEAU MEETING ON ARMS RACE 'USELESS'

LD170610 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1500 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] Washington, 16 Dec (TASS) -- TASS correspondent A. Shalnev reports:

Despite its declarations about the necessity for curbing the nuclear arms race, in every possible way Washington evades searching for constructive solutions to the most pressing problem of modern times. This is confirmed yet again by the results of talks President Reagan held in the White House with P. Trudeau, the prime minister of Canada.

The prime minister, at whose initiative the meeting was held, expected to discuss in detail with the head of the U.S. Administration his "program for a general and all-embracing approach" to the weakening of the current tense situation in the world. As is well known, this program contains a number of proposals, the implementation of which, the Canadian Government is convinced, would contribute to guaranteeing effective control over nuclear arms.

In particular it is a matter of calling an authoritative international forum to work out concrete measures for establishing limits to nuclear arsenals of the five nuclear states, for strengthening the process of nonproliferation of nuclear arms, and for banning the testing and deployment of antisatellite weapons.

But Reagan simply brushed these proposals aside. To judge from the words of a highly placed representative of the State Department, he led the meeting with P. Trudeau instead into a "general philosophical discussion," during which he launched into wordy discourses about the "devotion" of his administration to arms control.

A. MacEachen, Canadian secretary of state for external affairs, admitted the complete uselessness of the meeting. In a conversation with journalists, he admitted outright, without hiding his disappointment, that in response to its proposals the Canadian side had not heard "anything concrete" from President Reagan. It is clear from the words of the Canadian minister that, having rejected Ottawa's proposals as "unacceptable," Washington at the same time resorted to powerful pressure aimed at getting from its northern neighbor unconditional support for its program of global militarist preparations.

MCFARLANE NEWS CONFERENCE REMARKS 'IRRESPONSIBLE'

LD171357 Moscow TASS in English 1340 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Text] Washington December 17 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Lyutiy:

The U.S. President's National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane has held a press conference here for foreign journalists devoted to the results of U.S. foreign policy over the past year. McFarlane did not even try to conceal its aim -- that of proving things that cannot be proved: He alleged that the Reagan administration's aggressive, anti-peoples policies made the world safer during the past year.

The statement is irresponsible, to say the least. One is struck by Washington's perverse logic: The President's assistant shamelessly tried to present the U.S. adventurous actions which sharply heightened tensions throughout the world as "peace" efforts by the Washington administration. McFarlane praised in all ways, for example, the started deployment of advanced American medium-range nuclear systems in Western Europe.

Gen Bernard Rogers, supreme allied commander Europe, admitted the other day that the missiles are intended for making a first nuclear strike and starting a war. McFarlane claimed that the United States was working for the lessening of the nuclear menace.

McFarlane stuck to the same "logic" when assessing U.S.-Soviet relations. It is common knowledge that Washington deliberately led the talks on the limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe into an impasse and made impossible their continuation, sharply curtailed economic ties with the USSR and whipped up anti-Soviet hysteria to an unprecedented scale since the times of the cold war. However, if one is to believe McFarlane, what the United States was doing all the time was trying to establish a "constructive dialogue" with the USSR.

What can one say about the administration that is seeking to present as a "benefit" to peace the perfidious intervention against sovereign Grenada, the administration that describes as "peace-keeping efforts" the killings by the U.S. military of innocent Lebanese and Palestinians or its support for racist terror on the territory of much-suffering Namibia? What can one say about the administration that is seeking to portray as "broadening of democracy" the refined ideological subversion against foreign states it does not like, the sending of CIA agents, experts on military, political and economic sabotage abroad under the cover of "public" exchanges of all sorts, and the framing of international public opinion in the spirit of rabid militarism?

No matter how hard the Reagan administration might try, it will not be able to deceive the peoples by the tall tales about its "peacefulness". The world public is enraged by Washington's policy of international piracy and terrorism. The results of this policy in the outgoing year seriously enhanced the war threat to the world and, consequently, to the United States itself.

MCFARLANE STATEMENT 'NOT WORTH COMMENTING ON'

LD172356 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Fom the Vremya newscast]

[Text] McFarlane, assistant to the U.S. President on national security, held a press conference in Washington today for foreign journalists on the subject of the end of the year and results of U.S. foreign policy. During the conference he tried to prove that the Reagan administration's policy has strengthened security in the world, and stated that ove the past year the world has become a safer place and that there are now far fewer reasons for crisis and instability than there were a year ago. Over to Genrikh Borovik;

[Borovik] Hello, comrades! The year is drawing to an end, and in 2 weeks more it will be replaced by a new year. It is difficult to say what sort of year 1984 will be, what the immediate future will be like. However, the past has helped people determine once again who's who on our earth.

A year ago we spoke on the Vremya newscast about the black jubilees that U.S. imperialism could mark in 1983: the 10th anniversary of the CIA-organized fascist coup in Chile, the 15th anniversary of the murder of Martin Luther King by FBI agents, the 20th anniversary of the beginning of the escalation of the bloody U.S. war against Vietnam, and the 50th anniversary of the coming to power of Hitler's fascism in which, as we know, U.S. monopolies and many others had a hand. This year too Washington has not been idle, and has carried out crimes that will remain in human memory for a long time:

1983 is going out to the thunder of the guns of the U.S. battleship "New Jersey" trained directly on residential areas of Beirut; to the shouting of U.S. soldiers on the small island of Grenada, which it is occupying; to the roar of Boeings delivering equipment to Europe for the deployment there of new U.S. nuclear missiles; to the sound of gunfire of U.S. terrorists trained by the CIA and sent into Nicaragua, Afghanistan, and Angola.

Washington has, however, achieved a very considerable amount this year in the production of lies per head of the world's population. Remember how the White House promised that U.S. forces would leave Lebanon 1 month after they went in there? They have been there to whole of this year, and every word said was a lie. Remember how Washington asserted that the United States had nothing to do with the killing of civilians in Nicaragua? Every word here was a lie. Remember how evasive the White House was when it tried to prove that the South Korean aircraft which violated our borders was not on a provocative U.S. reconnaissance mission? On this occasion there was not a single word of truth. Remeber how Ronald Reagan said that he had been asked to restore democracy on Grenada, that he had sent forces there to render harmles the Soviet-Cuban military base and would take the forces off the island the day after he rescued the Americans living there? Every one of these wores was a lie. Remember how the U.S. President spoke of his striving to reach an agreement in Geneva at the talks on reduction of nuclear arms in order not to station new missiles in Europe? Every word here too was a lie. It has now become known from secret Pentagon papers that the decision to site new missiles in Europe was taken long long ago, and was not dependent on the results of the Geneva talks.

Today's statement by McFarlane, assistant to the U.S. President on national security, that the world has become stronger and more stable thanks to the policy of the United States is, I think, simply not worth commenting on. We will just show you the film you saw a few days ago, and which was taken a few days ago off the Lebanese coast. The U.S. battleship "New Jersey" is firing its guns directly at residential areas in Beirut. Yes, the world has become significantly stronger, significantly more stable.

I talked of the 50th anniversary of the coming to power of Hitler's fascism. This was built on hatred, fear, and falsehood. The outgoing year has confirmed once again that the leaders of the United States are adhering even more to the method of thinking which approximates to the one that was demonstrated to the world 50 years ago in Germany. In any event, U.S. policy nowadays rests on the very same foundations: hatred, fear and falsehood.

REAGAN LAUNCHES 'PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE AGENCY'

LD181701 Moscow TASS in English 1603 GMT 18 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 18 TASS -- By TASS political news analyst Vyacheslav Chernyshev.

A wonderful idea has suddenly "dawned" on the U.S. President. Speaking in Washington at a ceremony of launching another psychological warfare agency, under the pretentious name of the National Endowment for Democracy, the White House chief confessed that until recently he assumed that the peoples in other countries "would look at the American system and see that it was the way to go." But the peoples of the world, for some reason, not only fail to look at the American way of life, but on the contrary, are putting up resistance when Yankees try to impose on them their orders. So, as Reagan put, "it suddenly dawned" on him that the United States was not active enough in selling the "advantages" of life in the "model" country of the Western world.

"Then I decided," Ronald Reagan announced, "that this [word indistinct] with its heritage of Yankee traders, we ought to do a little selling of the principles of democracy" and that Americans should put into this enterprise their "resources, organizations, sweat and dollars."

"Demoracy" American style is resented world-wide not because the people know little about it. On the contrary, too many people in America and outside know too well its true essence. Camouflaged as "democracy", the American way of life conveals the gross violation of the basic human rights and liberties, terrorism, institutionalised since the times of the mass genocide against the native population of the country, the (?Indians), ruthless oppression of the "coloured" minorities, cruel supression of the signs of (?slightest) dissent.

Abroad, American "democracy" is unceremoniously and brazenly imposed by the bayonets of Marines, especially when dealing with the weaker. The tragedies of Grenada and Lebanon are the latest examples.

The catchers of human souls will gain little from their work of the "endowment" that is, in fact, another cover for unceremomious interference in the affairs of sovereign nations, and penetration into their political and public organisations and into their mass media.

Turning the very notions of democracy, freedom and justice inside out, the American way of life shows the entire world [word indistinct] what the "Yankee [word indistinct]" are trying to sell is tainted merchandise.

'Ideological Subversion'

LD171337 Moscow TASS in English 1234 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Text] Washington December 17 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Shalnev reports:

On Friday the White House marked in a pompous propaganda ceremony the official inauguration of the so-called National Foundation for Democracy, another major organisation that will concern itself with the preparation and conduct of global ideological subversion.

The foundation, set up under the notorious "programme of democracy and public diplomacy", has actually been given the functions of gross intervention in the affairs of sovereign states and infiltration of their political and mass organisations and mass media. The foundation, which will operate in other countries behind the front of different "trade union", "proprietor" and "private" organisations, will be used by Washington not only to foster U.S. "principles of democracy" and the American way of life. Utmost attention will be given to the collection of intelligence and to covert subversive operations against the governments which displease the United States. It is no chance that, according to the available information, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, which was closely involved in putting together that "non-governmental" organisation, is one of its leading though unofficial sponsors.

The reactionary bosses of the trade union association AFL-CIO have played their part as well and its chairman, Lane Kirkland, has been given by the Reagan Administration a seat on the board of directors of the foundation. The trade union bosses are known to have a wealth of experience in conducting subversive operations in other countries through the so-called free trade union institutions established by the AFL-CIO jointly with the CIA.

Representatives of big private capital also are to play a key role. Washington hopes with their help dramatically to step up the neocolonialist infiltration of the emergent states and to secure there "room" for the predatory activities of the transnational corporations.

Assessing the scope of the future operations of the foundation, it should be borne in mind that its establishment is just one of the 44 projects included in the "programme of democracy and public diplomacy". Each of those projects is guaranteed virtually unlimited support and assistance of the administration, which has set aside about 63 million dollars, excluding, naturally, the money appropriated under the secret "special items" of the federal budget, for the first two years of the operation of the "foundation" alone.

TASS SEES CIA LINKS WITH FOREIGN AIRLINES

PM161235 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Dec 83 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "For Espionage Purposes"]

[Text] Washington, 14 Dec -- The U.S. CIA has been making and continues to make wide use of civilian aircraft for espionage purposes. This conclusion has been drawn by the U.S. journal COUNTERSPY.

Among foreign airlines, Israel's El Al, South Korea's Korean Airlines, and Taiwan's China Airlines cooperate most actively with the CIA.

For a long time El Al has had close "business" relations with Israel intelligence Mosad, and through it with the CIA, both of which receive valuable information by making use of regular passenger aircraft flights. Mosad is also the secret owner of the Zurich airline Simex Aviation, with whose help it conducts espionage in countries in the Near East and Africa.

Korean Airlines is formally a private company, but it systematically carries out assignments from the South Korean Central Intelligence Agency. In particular, it is used to transport spies and carry large sums of money abroad.

The civilian aircraft of the airlines of smaller countries cooperating with the CIA, the journal writes, are equipped with still and movie cameras, as well as equipment for aerial espionage during flight. This equipment is installed in U.S. military bases and especially in Andrews AFB, Maryland, by private companies.

Inside the United States, the CIA relies in its operations on such dummy airline companies as Transocean Airlines and Page Airways. At one time the U.S. espionage agency owned its own airlines operating both inside the country and in Asia. Among them were Air America, Air Asia, Southern Air Transport, and Intermountain Aviation. They were, however, sold in the mid-seventies to "private" corporation closely linked with the CIA.

The CIA cooperated for a long time with Pan Am, one of the largest U.S. air transportation companies, and a number of its offices abroad served as "shelter" for the Langley knights of the "cloak and dagger."

'SECRET MISSIONS' VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

LD180215 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Text] President Reagan has said in a recent statement that secret operations were an integral part of activities by the U.S. authorities. Having admitted openly that the White House carries on secret operations, the President concealed from the public, however, issues related to that or, to be more exact, how these secret operations look from the point of view of international law and what they lead to.

Our news analyst Igor Aleksandrov writes that the secret operations the U.S. President openly boasts of are in flagrant violation of international law. They amount to trampling the sovereignty of states and to interfering in their affairs. In effect, this is international terrorism elevated to government policy.

The secret operations the CIA conducts with the knowledge of the White House run counter to the United Nations Charter and other international agreements to which, by the way, Washington is a signatory. It is also notable that the secret CIA operations against independent nations have serious consequences for the United States itself and for international security. Many years ago, the flight of an American U-2 spylane deep inside the territory of the Soviet Union wrecked a U.S.-USSR summit meeting. The dispatch last summer of a South Korean plane on a spying mission into an area where strategic Soviet installations are stationed worsened the world situation. The secret war the CIA is waging against Nicaragua creates an explosive situation in Central America and threatens that the United States may become involved in an armed conflict against the people of that independent nation. Such are but a few of the facts.

By usurping the right to conduct secret missions against independent countries, the President is actually flouting the United States Constitution. For these secret operations by the CIA are in effect undeclared wars. The President is thus usurping the consitutional right of the Congress to declare war.

By a majority vote the House of Representatives opposed the CIA's secret war against Nicaragua, but the White House ignored the views of the lawmakers and even keeps them in the dark concerning the secret operations it is engaged in. NEWSWEEK magazine said that critics on and off Capital Hill say CIA Director Casey shows an old cold-warrior's insensitivity and a high-handed disregard for the role of Congressional oversight in this most sensitive area.

But it is not Casey himself who is important actually. He is only following through a White House policy. And it has become characteristic of the White House to conceal the objectives of its policy, to distort facts and to misinform the public. But all things, sooner or later, will out.

PRC, JAPAN PLAN NUCLEAR ENGINEERING AGREEMENT

LD161348 Moscow TASS in English 1120 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] Tokyo December 16 TASS -- The KYODO TSUSHIN news agency reports that Japanese-Chinese inter-governmental consultations will begin in Beijing shortly to draft an agreement on cooperation in nuclear engineering. It is pointed out that, according to official sources, the Japanese have reached understanding with representatives of the Ministry of the Nuclear Industry of China on the joint development of uranium deposits in China. The Chinese side, according to the news report, has not stipulated any restrictions on the use of the uranium ore that will be supplied by China as payment by Japanese cooperation.

U.S. MAINTAINS 'SPECIAL RELATIONS' WITH TAIWAN

OW181004 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0700 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Commentary by station observer Mulatov: "The U.S. Plan on China"]

[Text] Obviously the United States has recently stepped up its efforts to formulate the basic orientation of its policy toward China. Reports from Washington state that the United States is making full preparations to greet Zhao Ziyang's visit in January of next year and is drawing up a stand in its own interest for Reagan's trip to China in April, both on the basis of the concept of global politics.

A considerable part of the recent speech delivered by U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger in the National Press Club in Washington was devoted to a discussion of the U.S.-China relations. A few days ago a conservative American science research organization sponsored a symposium on the strategic relations with China and the security of Taiwan. The following is a commentary in this regard by our observer Mulatov entitled "The U.S. Plan on China":

The far-reaching goal of U.S. policy toward China has two premises: One is that the United States wants China to take a stand as close as possible to its own or even to take the same stand on strategic issues in the world.

In his speech at the National Press Club, Weinberger talked profusely about the stragegic importance of U.S.-China relations and broadly hinted that the United States hopes China will take the road of not getting close to the USSR and other countries of the socialist camp. As can be seen, the first basic principle of the policy toward China by this biggest imperialist country is to create a confrontation between China and the socialist system in the world and to draw China onto the road of the U.S. global strategy.

The second premise of the U.S. imperialist policy toward China is to maintain the so-called "special relations" with the anticommunist authorities in Taipei. In the eyes of the United States, the Taipei authorities have been and still remain a convenient tool for exerting pressure on the People's Republic of China and for intervening in the Chinese people's internal affairs. This can be evidently proved by the materials published in Washington on the symposium discussing the strategic relations with China and the security of Taiwan. It should be noted that the United States reserves for itself the right to solve the issue of Taiwan's future and the right to decide on the nature, concrete details, and scope of the so-called "U.S.-China relations of strategic coordination."

We can easily see that the U.S. policy toward China was, is, and will continue to be a component of its anticommunist global strategy aimed directly at instigating disputes and conflicts among socialist countires and at undermining and disintegrating the socialist system in the world.

Imperialist strategists know clearly that the USSR was and still is the socialist system's main economic, military, and political fortress in the world. Chinese listeners, perhaps you know what leaders of the Communist Party of China and the People's Republic of China once said about the historical importance of this fortress. They stressed repeatedly that without the USSR the Chinese revolution would have been strangled by world reactionaries headed by the United States. They pointed out repeatedly that the existence of the USSR was a decisive external political factor for the 1949 victory of the Chinese revolution and for the subsequent work in building a socialist foundation in China. The whole history of socialism in the world has borne out this truth: Without the USSR as a reliable strategic rear and fortress, all socialist countries would have long been tormented and strangled, one after another, by the imperialists.

We wish to take this opportunity to point out that evidence for this can be found in the documents of the Communist Party of China. These documents show that if the USSR had not given timely and effective support and assistance to the Hungarian people in 1956, their socialist system would have been destroyed by the imperialists. The importance of the Soviet support and assistance to Vietnam in repulsing the direct imperialist strategists attempted to divorce Czechoslovakia from the socialist system in the world and to eliminate the socialist system there, but all their efforts proved of no avail.

In recent years world reactionaries had a plan to shake Poland's socialist foundation so as to restore capitalism there, but the schemes in this connection formulated by the U.S. anticommunist strategists proved to be a failure. Also unsuccessful was their plots to isolate Cuba and undermine its socialist system in an attempt to control that country again. Moreoever, the U.S. imperialists have planned and are still planning to stir up nationalism in a certain socialist country, and create a confrontation between that country and the USSR in order to make that country obey the will of the imperialist monopoly group and draw it into the U.S. global strategy of protecting the "free world," or in other words the capitalist world.

Because of other socialist countries' cooperation and solidarity with the USSR, however, all the U.S. imperialist schemes have failed. This is why the U.S. authorities have a aimed the main striking force of their anticommunist crusade expedition at the USSR. This is why they have resorted to every way and means of preventing an "effective political (?approach) between China and the USSR," as described by the United States.

In planning and implementing the U.S. policy toward China, imperialist strategists cherish the illusion of having China strategically subject of the United States as the Chiang Kai-shek regime was in the past. This is borne out by the "two Chinas" policy pursued by the United States and by the increasing efforts it is making to improve its plan toward the People's Republic of China.

JAPAN'S RULING PARTY LOSES PARLIAMENT MAJORITY

LD190534 Moscow TASS in English 0526 GMT 19 Dec 83

[Text] Tokyo December 19 TASS -- The results of elections to the lower house of parliament, which took place last Sunday, were summed up in Japan. The ruling Liberal Democratic Party lost its majority in that 511-seat chamber. Whereas before the elections it had 286 seats there, now it has only 250.

Opposition parties substantially consolidated their positions in the country's supreme legislative body. The Socialist Party, the leading opposition party, won 112 seats, an increase of 11 seats over what it had earlier had in that house.

A total of less than 68 percent of the eligible voters took part in the elections, the lowest turn-out for all post-war years.

JAPANESE BUSINESSMAN LAUDS TIES WITH USSR

PM151158 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 4

[Interview with Komataro Kondo, vice president of the Osaka Chamber of Trade and Industry, by own correspondent S. Chugrov under the rubric "On Current Topics": "The Kansai Favors Trade" -- first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] A Japanese delegation of business circles from the Kansai region is in our country on a working visit. In a talk with IZVESTIYA correspondent S. Chugrov, delegation leader Komataro Kondo, vice president of the Osaka Chamber of Trade and Industry, said in particular:

I first came to Moscow in June of last year. I was touched by the hospitality shown to me and delighted by the possibilities for developing trade links. On my return to Osaka I told business circles in our region about these prospects and...here we are.

Our delegation comprises representatives from medium and small enterprises and firms in the Kansai region. What is the Kansai? It is one of Japan's most important economic regions, including the cities of Osaka and Kyoto. If Tokyo is Japan's political center, then Osaka can without exaggeration be termed the center of the country's economic life.

So that you can understand what medium and small enterprises are, I will cite the example of the textile industry, since I myself represent this sector. Almost 10 percent of all those engaged in industrial production work in the textile industry, and most textile workers are employed in medium and small firms. We therefore consider ourselves a significant force.

I well remember how Japanese-American contradictions on textile exports deteriorated sharply during the 1960's. In talks at that time I defended the interests of our textile industry. The United States did not want to listen to our needs, and the talks were virtually deadlocked. And it was just then that protests began in the Kansai against the unequal U.S. economic policy.

Even then we wondered: Why should we be geared solely to the United States? After all, there are other countries -- including our neighbor the Soviet Union -- with which we can develop equal and mutually advantageous cooperation. And we are not talking just about textile industry output.

In our delegation there are representatives of firms producing agricultural machines, car parts, wire, optics, glass, and other output. Representatives and firms which would like to agree on purchasing various types of industrial goods and raw materials in your country.

Of course certain obstacles to developing our trading links have not been removed, but we think that, despite the differences in our social structures, we need to trade unhampered. We are convinced that the government cannot pursue its policy without heeding the voice of the representatives of business.

In Moscow we have had cordial business meetings with V.N. Sushkov, USSR deputy foreign trade minister; V.P. Pletnev, first deputy chairman of the USSR Chamber of Trade and Industry Presidium; and representatives of Soviet foreign trade associations. We gained the impression that there are still many unexploited reserves for stimulating business links. And the development of trade links between our countries is bound to contribute to strengthening good-neighborliness.

We wish to develop friendly ties in an atmosphere of peace and stability. Osaka is a city that suffered greatly in the last war. I am no longer young: next February I will be 70. And I believe that people of my generation have a duty to pass on to the young both the experience of life and the sincere desire to create rather than destroy.

RYABOV RECEIVES INDIAN NUCLEAR POWER CHIEF

PM151002 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Dec 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meeting Held"]

[Text] On 13 December Ya. P. Ryabov, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, received R. Ramanna, chairman of the Indian Atomic Energy Commission, who is in the USSR on a working visit. Questions of developing cooperation in the sphere of the peaceful use of atomic energy were discussed at the meeting, which was held in a businesslike and friendly atmosphere.

U.S. ARMS TO PAKISTAN 'ALARM' INDIAN MINISTER

LD172346 Moscow TASS in English 2234 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Text] New Delhi December 17 TASS -- India's Defence Minister Ramaswamy Venkataraman expressed serious alarm over the growing U.S. shipments of advanced weaponry to Pakistan. Responding to a question in parliament that the U.S. "F-16" fighter-bombers being purchased by Pakistan are being equipped with long-range detection onboard radars, the minister said that at present Islamabad intends to get for its Air Force even more advanced electronic control and tracking systems from the USA. The defence minister assured the deputies of parliament that the Indian Governmant is closely following all the developments posing a threat to India's security, and is taking all necessary steps to assure its defence capacity.

The Indian press notes in this connection that in doing all it can to contribute to militarization of Pakistan which is receiving tanks, armoured personnel carriers, artillery pieces, ships, helicopters, missiles and other military ware, Washington is making Pakistan into a staging area for the pursuit of its own interventionist strategy in South and South-West Asia. In the opinion of the newspaper NATIONAL HERALD, important emphasis in the process is laid also on possibilities for undermining India's economy by drawing that country into the runaway arms race unleashed by Pakistan in the region. The article says that at a time when U.S. weaponry is generously flowing to Pakistan as a "gift" from Washington, the Indian Government, to safeguard its defence capacity, is forced to spend the means necessary for resolving the urgent tasks of socio-economic development. The newspaper says that in this manner the Reagan administration is exerting massive pressure on India in a bid to force it to change its independent foreign policy of peace, which has long caused undisguised irritation on the part of the White House.

INDIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS HIT 'CIA ACTIVITY'

LD171000 Moscow TASS in English 2128 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] New Delhi December 16 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Bokhonko reports:

The United States Embassy in Delhi has been turned into a centre of espionage and subversive operations against India. This was said by parliamentarians during a debate here, in connection with the exposure of the unsavoury activity of U.S. diplomats in India.

Member of parliament G.Ch. Bhatacharyya pointed to a recent arrest of U.S. spies and deportation from India of a number of officials of the U.S. Embassy who had been collecting intelligence information. This shows that the CIA has been using intensively the embassy to cover up secret war against India. He said it is no secret that many U.S. diplomats in India are engaged in the activity incompatible with their status. The aim of the U.S. espionage agency is to weaken India, undermine its national unity and territorial integrity.

For a long time now the U.S. ruling circles have been displeased with the peaceful and independent policy conducted by India in the international arena, G.Ch. Bhatacharyya said.

India's Minister of State for Home Affairs N.R. Laskar informed the parliamentarians of the investigation of the actions of a group of American spies who had been arrested recently by the Indian security bodies. He said that over a number of years hired agents in return for lavish reward were supplying the U.S. intelligence services with the knowledge damaging the interests of national security, using the United States Embassy as a mediator.

N.R. Laskar said that the security bodies are doing their utmost to cut short the spying by foreign special services in India.

The local press is citing new data attesting to crude interference of the U.S. special services in India's internal affairs. It has become known recently that the Central Intelligence Agency of the United States is striving persistently to penetrate Indian trade unions. The newspaper PATRIOT writes that under the cover of all sort of societies and funds the U.S. espionage agency offers financial aid to persons and trade union organizations of interest to it. Quite recently the government banned the activity of the "research centre" in Ahmadabad, Gujarat State, that was financed by the USA. The "centre" was engaged in "research" into the sphere of trade union movement. The true aim of the transoceanic "researchers" was to set up reactionary organizations to sabotage social and economic reforms implemented by the Indian government, the newspaper writes.

'SINISTER' BANGLADESH ACTS 'HURT' USSR RELATIONS

BK171456 Moscow in Bengali to Bangladesh 1500 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Vladimir (Puchkov) commentary]

[Text] Victory day, a major national festival of the people of Bangladesh, is on 16 December. Commentator Vladimir (Puchkov) writes: With the signing of the act of surrender of the Pakistani forces in Dhaka 12 years ago, the people of Bangladesh, winning the long-awaited victory, stepped onto an independent and sovereign path of development. Prior to this important and happy event, the people of Bangladesh had to fight resolutely against the Pakistani military forces, which made large-scale use of the political and material support of imperialists and reactionaries led by the United States. The imperialists and reactionaries supplied arms and ammunition to the Pakistani forces to sow the seeds of death and destruction on the soil of East Bengal. They also supported the policy of genocide pursued by the Pakistani authorities against the people of East Bengal at the United Nations and other international fora. It is difficult to say what could have been the outcome of the East Bengal people's movement under such circumstances. But the forces of peace, freedom, and democracy, led by the Soviet Union, supported their just principles.

In the opinion of progressive social workers and politicians of the country, the international help and support of the Soviet workers to the just struggle of Bangladesh raised the hope of victory in the hearts of everyone in Bangladesh and also provided them strength and courage. This has been stated in many letters received from our listeners. S.M. Abdullah of Pabna writes: We consider the Soviet Union a true friend of our country, and we had indisputable proof of this during the liberation movement. The people of the Soviet Union extended help to us during our difficult days. The Soviet Union was on the top of the list of those who provided aid to us in the reconstruction of the war-torn economy, and, thus, we are greatly indebted to the people of Soviet Union.

It is a fact that Soviet-Bangladesh friendship, mutual understanding, and cooperation, strengthened during the Bangladesh people's movement for freedom and independence, fruitfully flourished after political independence. Trade and economic cooperation, fundamental facets of our relations, were effective and multifarious from the very beginning. The people of Bangladesh have not forgotten such Soviet help as the reconstruction of the Chittagong port -- the country's doorway to the sea -- which was a glorious chapter in Soviet-Bangladesh cooperation. Soviet aid for the development of the modern marine fishery in Bangladesh is not at all insignificant. Hundreds of skilled experts received training in various higher educational institutions of the Soviet Union to the benefit of the national economy of Bangladesh. Large quantities of natural gas were explored in the Feni and Kaptai areas of Bangladesh with Soviet assistance. The Ghorasal thermal powerstation and the electric machine plant in Chittagong are symbols of Soviet-Bangladesh friendship and cooperation. When the second and third stages of the Ghorasal powerplant are completed, it will produce more than half of the total electrical power in Bangladesh.

Trade relations between the two countries are constantly being increased and have a great impact on the economic growth of Bangladesh. Year after year the Soviet Union supplies the most necessary ingredients for Bangladesh industry -- fuel for diesel engines, cotton, pig iron, cement, machinery, and industrial accessories. On the other hand, the Soviet Union is a dependable, stable market for Bangladeshi goods. In 1983, the Soviet Union has so far purchased from Bangladesh 40,000 tons of jute, 15 million jute bags, 28 million yards of jute clothing, 1,100 tons of tea, and 1,000 tons of tobacco, the total cost of which is $40 million. In fact, the Soviet Union has become a major partner of Bangladesh in the field of trade and economy. In this connection, it should be stated with emphasis that the importance of trade and economic cooperation is not limited to the number of industries set up with Soviet aid or on the quantity of goods exchanged between the two countries. The fundamental principles of Soviet-Bangladesh cooperation, which are based on genuine equality, mutual benefit, and noninterference in the internal affairs of each other, are aimed at strengthening the national independence of Bangladesh. Undoubtedly this cooperation, compared to that with other countries -- especially the developed capitalist countries -- helped to strengthen the position of the new republic. It can be said without hesitation that Bangladesh's multifarious cooperation with the Soviet Union is closely linked to the basic interest of its people and has turned into an important factor for its independent growth.

The Soviet Union always desires to have good relations and wide-ranging, close international cooperation with Bangladesh. However, relations between countries is a bilateral matter. Thus, the recent, evident deterioration in relations between the Soviet Union and Bangladesh has aroused concern and alarm. The Soviet Union is not responsible for this.

According to press reports, the Bangladesh authorities have taken some unilateral steps with the objective of reducing Soviet-Bangladesh friendly ties. The sinister campaign against the Soviet Union in Bangladesh harms the atmosphere of cooperation between our two countries. It seems that, despite more than one statement by the Bangladeshi authorities regarding their interest in strengthening and expanding bilateral relations between our two countries, they are willingly or unwillingly providing scope to hurt the constructive foundation of Soviet-Bangladesh relations, which have been established with the joint efforts of the two countries and their people during the past 12 years. This tendency can harm our bilateral relations. It is contrary to the good tradition of our friendship, mutual understanding, and fruitful cooperation.

We want to believe that this newly emerged tendency in Soviet-Bangladesh relations will be removed. Undoubtedly, the people of our two countries will express their satisfaction about this.

The people of the Soviet Union extend their sincere greetings and good wishes to the people of Bangladesh on Victory Day, the national festival of Bangladesh.

AFGHAN ARMED GROUPS ACCEPT AMNESTY OFFER

LD171750 Moscow TASS in English 1545 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Text] Kabul December 17 TASS -- Two armed groupings, whose members belonged to Pakistani-based Afghan counter-revolutionary organisations, have gone over to the side of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in Samangan Province.

According to BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY, two more armed groups in Parvan Province also took advantage of the general amnesty decree issued by the DRA Revolutionary Council. They expressed readiness to take part in the campaign of strengthening legality and order conducted by the country's revolutionary leadership.

JOINT EFFORTS MARK USSR-DRA VETERINARY MEETING

PM172102 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 16 Dec 83 p 3

[G. Baykov article: "Joint Efforts"]

[Text] The 20th jubilee Afghan-Soviet veterinary conference has been held in Kabul. Cooperation between the veterinary services of the Soviet Union and the DRA is developing fruitfully. Thanks to joint efforts, for instance, cattle plague, outbreaks of which in the past did great economic damage to stockraising, has been wiped out throughout Afghan territory. In order to wipe out this especially dangerous disease teams of veterinarians with the necessary medicines, veterinary supplies, and specialized motor transport were sent from the USSR to various DRA provinces. In this work a highly effective, Soviet-produced, antiplague vaccine was used, 2 million doses of which are annually shipped to the DRA.

DRA'S 'DAYS OF SOVIET LITERATURE' HAILED

LD171009 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Excerpt] The Days of Soviet Literature in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan have concluded. Our correspondent has interviewed the leader of the Soviet delegation, secretary of the Board of the USSR Union of Writers, Yuriy Nikolayevich Verchenko, who said:

[Begin Verchenko recording] The Days of Soviet Literature in Afghanistan coincided with the celebration of the fifth anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship, Good Neighborhood and Cooperation Between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan. Therefore, at the meetings which took place, irrespective of the literary questions discussed, people spoke in the first place of the friendship between the two peoples and the close ties linking the two states. That friendship goes back to the first years after the revolution and to the great Lenin.

During these days, the Soviet delegation was able to see how warmly and sincerely the Afghan people supported Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in connection with the war hysteria, the armaments race, attempts to influence USSR policy from a position of strength. Our Afghan friends unanimously approved the Soviet peace policy and the course of our party.

During these days we visited several Afghanistan provinces. We saw the complex situation in which the Afghan people have to now build their new life and consolidate the conquests of the Afghan revolution. I cannot forget the meeting in Jelalabad, when more than 2,000 people gathered in the square near the college. They were peasants from villages of the neighborhood, as well as students and servicemen. This was a stern warning to those who help the counterrevolutionary forces in Afghanistan, who supply arms to the "dushmans" who come from Pakistan. By the way, we saw an exhibition of weapons seized from the counterrevolutionaries. These were U.S. and Pakistani modern weapons. And here was this meeting, the forest of raised hands. Never will the forces of the counterrevolution overcome the forces of the April Revolution, the participants in the meeting said. [end recording]

USSR THANKS LAOS FOR ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS

BK151454 Vientiane KPL in English 0859 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Vientiane, December 15 (KPL) -- Leaders of the party and state of the Soviet Union recently thanked Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP CC, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Souphanouvong, Political Bureau member of the LPRP CC, president of the Lao PDR and the People's Supreme Assembly. In the message, the Soviet leaders expressed thanks to the Lao leaders for the latter's message of greetings on the 66th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The Soviet leaders further expressed conviction that the fraternal friendship relations and firm cooperation between parties, governments and peoples of the two countries, basing on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, will be developed and consolidated.

U.S. ADMIRAL ON 'MODERNIZATION' IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

'Considering' Chemical Weapons

LD161118 Moscow TASS in English 0705 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] Bangkok December 16 TASS -- The U.S. Administration is considering the option of bringing chemical weapons and cruise missiles into Southeast Asian countries. This was announced here yesterday by Admiral William Crowe, commander of the U.S. Armed Forces in the Pacific and Indian Oceans. The United States, he said, welcomes "modernization" of the armed forces of the countries in the region.

William Crowe, appointed to the post of commander of the U.S. Armed Forces in the Pacific and Indian Oceans in July this year, yesterday completed his first trip to Thailand. During the visit he was received by Prime Minister and Defence Minister Prem Tinsulanon, and high-ranking military commanders. He also visited the region of the Thai-Kampuchean border.

'Considering' Cruise Missiles

LD171507 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0730 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Excerpts] The U.S. Administration is considering introducing cruise missiles and chemical weapons to Southeast Asian countries. This was stated at a press conference in Bangkok by Admiral Crowe, chief of U.S. Armed Forces in the Pacific and Indian Oceans, who has been visiting Thailand. The statement by the U.S. admiral is yet another confirmation of the Reagan government's global militaristic plans, and of the particular emphasis they place on nuclear weapons. After foisting its missiles on Western Europe, Washington is now focusing on other regions of the world, preparing them, too, for an unenviable lot in the Pentagon's nuclear vault. If Southeast Asia is merely in the rear sights of the strategists across the ocean at the moment, then southern Africa is already being turned into a launching ground for U.S. Tomahawks. As is well known, the U.S. also claims the right to be first to use nuclear weapons in Europe.

The fact that all of this threatens mankind with destruction does not apparently in the least trouble the present U.S. Administration, which longs for world domination, and reconstruction of the world in a manner which suits it.

It is noteworthy that the statement by Admiral Crowe about the possible distribution of cruise missiles and chemical weapons in South Asian countries sounds as though the United States is free to dispose of the fate of states and peoples as it so desires. Such great-power ambitions are characteristic features of today's aggressive militaristic course in the White House. This course, sharply contradicting the will of peoples and the world, combined with a full disregard of national interests and sovereignty of independent countries, is creating a real threat of thermonuclear catastrophe. It cannot be whitewashed with any kind of pompous assurances of devotion to peace, which Reagan himself and representatives of his administration are making with such staggering hypocrisy. The great lie about a Soviet military threat to which Admiral Crowe so ridiculously refers in trying to substantiate plans for the deployment of cruise missiles and chemical weapons in Southeast Asia is notably losing its effectiveness as a means for fooling people. This is shown by the powerful movement against the deployment of new U.S. nuclear missile weapons in Western Europe, which has seized hold of not only European countries but also the United States. There is not doubt that Washington's attempts to present Southeast Asian states with its lethal weapons will also cause a decisive protest among the people of that region. The international public is becoming more and more deeply aware of the need to stop the nuclear maniacs from across the ocean, to save our planet from destruction.

SYRIAN PREMIER ON 'PRINCIPLED, UNCHANGED' POLICY

LD181422 Moscow TASS in English 1326 GMT 18 Dec 83

[Text] Damascus December 18 TASS -- Syria's policy towards events taking place in the Middle East remains principled and unchanged. The Syrian people will continue opposing the American-Israeli aggression in the region, said Prime Minister of the Syrian Republic 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm. The strategic agreement between Washington and Tel Aviv, he stressed, is directly aimed against the security of Syria and other Arab states. Syria will continue upholding its legitimate interests and working for a fair solution of the Palestinian problem, said the head of government of the Syrian Arab Republic.

LEBANON CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT REPORTED

LD171126 Moscow TASS in English 1105 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Text] Beirut December 17 TASS -- A ceasefire agreement between warring Lebanese groupings was achieved in Damascus yesterday, it has been announced here. Beirut's International Airport was re-opened today in line with the agreement.

Walid Junblatt, chairman of Lebanon's Progressive Socialist Party, said that a firm ceasefire agreement is a precondition for resuming the conference on national reconciliation in the country, the first round of which was held in Geneva.

U.S. Shells Area 'Again'

LD181503 Moscow TASS in English 1450 GMT 18 Dec 83

[Text] Beirut December 18 TASS -- American 6th Fleet warships, cruising off Lebanese coasts, again shelled today several regions in the country's highlands. The bombardment was undertaken despite the fact that the warring Lebanese factions reached a ceasefire agreement two days ago, launching a period of relative calm in the capital and other parts of the country. It is obvious that the actions by American invaders and Israeli occupiers are directed at destabilising the situation in Lebanon whose territory is actually occupied by the American military.

GREEK SHIPS DEPART ATHENS FOR LEBANON

LD171401 Moscow TASS in English 1310 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Text] Beirut December 17 TASS -- Five Greek ships have left Athens to evacuate Palestinian fighters from the area of the north Lebanese city of Tripoli to other Arab countries at the request of the leadership of the Palestine resistance movement, foreign news agencies report. Political commentators note that the Israeli fleet, backed by the U.S. Navy, is blocking approaches to the port of Tripoli.

U.S., ISRAELI 'ADVENTURES, PROVOCATIONS' HIT

PM161619 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Konstantin Geyvandov "Political Observer's Opinion": "A Policy of Adventures and Provocations"]

[Text] The U.S. news agencies report that U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz was left with a feeling of "bitter resentment" after recent visits to Tunisia and Morocco. They explain this by referring to the fact that, in his own words, he encountered a "very sharp reaction" in the Arab world to the intensification of U.S.-Israeli ties which was reflected graphically in the agreement on further strengthening U.S.-Israeli "strategic cooperation" that was reached during the Israeli leaders' recent trip to Washington. Nevertheless, the Arabs' negative reaction in no way shook Secretary of State Shultz' self-control, and he announced the U.S. Administration's firm intention to pursue its chosen course.

The concrete results of this policy are the new military adventures and acts of provocation committed in close cooperation by the U.S.-Israeli "strategic allies," primarily on Lebanese soil. It is already an accomplished fact that the United States has switched from encouraging and supporting the Israeli interventionists' actions to direct agression against Lebanon. A dangerous new stage in this adventurist course was marked by the recent mass bombing by U.S. aircraft of a number of regions in the Lebanese mountains, including positions held by Lebanese national patriotic forces and Syrian troops.

The shelling of areas to the east and south of Beirut by ships of the U.S. 6th Fleet massed off the Lebanese coast is continuing virtually every day. And, in violation of all the norms of international law, the U.S. military is firing phosphorous, cluster, and fragmentation [igolchatyy] shells, causing many casualties among the civilian population. U.S. President R. Reagan, defending his policy of using military force throughout the world, calls these "actions necessary for the defense of U.S. values and interests."

As part of this "defense of U.S. values and interests" and of the development of "strategic cooperation" with Israel, Washington has begun actively helping to perpetuate the Israeli interventionists' occupation of southern Lebanon and to transform it into a bridgehead for new U.S.-Israeli military adventures in the region. The U.S. press reports that the Pentagon, in furtherance of these aims, is intending in particular to transfer U.S. Marine units to the Tyre region in southern Lebanon. The U.S. military department is also actively studying the question of bringing extra troop contingents into Lebanese territory, including U.S. units trained to conduct "antiterrorist operations."

However, this is by no means the end of the Lebanese people's misfortunes. By all accounts the Israeli military, emboldened now by the even closer cooperation with its U.S. "strategic ally," is preparing to commit aggression in northern Lebanon similar to that begun in southern Lebanon last year. Whereas the presence of Palestinian armed formations in Lebanon was put forward as the pretext for the Israeli aggression last year, it is Tel Aviv's intention to link the beginning of large-scale military actions in northern Lebanon to the forthcoming evacuation of Palestinian formations from Tripoli. The Israeli naval blockade of northern Lebanon and the shelling of that region by Israeli ships are being regarded as the prelude to this development of events.

Nor is it possible to disregard the fact that the scale of the direct U.S. military threat to Syria has also grown consideraly as part of the now established closer "strategic cooperation" between Israel and the United States. According to information in Britain's THE SUNDAY TIMES, the U.S. President's National Security Adviser R. McFarlane and U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz are not ruling out the possibility that Washington could set in motion military force against Syria if it continues to obstruct an arrangement that suits the United States and Israel. That is the "message," the newspaper believes, that should have been conveyed to Damascus by the recent mass bombing of a number of regions in the Lebanese mountains by U.S. aircraft. Even though the U.S. Administration is also hinting at an "inducement" offered in the other hand by sending D. Rumsfeld, the U.S. President's Near East envoy, to the Syrian capital for "political talks."

At approximately the same time that U.S. and Israeli leaders were reaching agreement in Washington on further strengthening their "strategic cooperation," I had occasion to be in Jordan and to observe the firm protest and condemnation caused by this action among the Jordanian public. In conversation with me, Jordanian Foreign Minister Marsan al-Kasim stated that the U.S. Israeli agreements are an object of tremendous concern to all Arab states without exception. U.S. Secretary of State Shultz' recent visit to Tunisia and Morocco was marked by mass protest demonstrations and by strongly-worded anti-U.S. articles in the press which called the very appearance of the transatlantic traveler in the Arab countries an act of provocation.

These sentiments seem to be a reflection of the new trends. In the so-called "moderate" Arab countries the realization is growing that the official military alliance between Washington and Tel Aviv is directed not just against the radical Arab states but against all Arabs. The United States' bandit-like behavior in Lebanon has even opened the eyes of pro-Western Arabs to the fact that the Arab peoples' main enemies are Israel and the United States, joined in a criminal alliance.

It seems that the circumstances taking shape in this way are opening up before the Arab peoples and their leaders new opportunities for uniting their ranks and for a broad coordination of actions on the main task -- the struggle against American's hegemonist plans in the Near East and against Zionism's continuing intrigues against the Arab world. The next question is: Will they take advantage of them? There is only one point that is not in doubt -- life itself is urging the Arabs to do this.

VISITING LIBYAN AIR FORCE CHIEF LEAVES MOSCOW

PM161044 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Dec 83 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Departure From Moscow"]

[Text] Colonel S.M. al-Farjani, Air Force commander of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, who was on an official visit to the Soviet Union, left Moscow 15 December.

At the airport Col S.M. al-Farjani was seen off by Colonel General of Aviation P.I. Belonozhko, first deputy chief of the Air Force General Staff, and other Soviet generals and officers.

U.S. CONSIDERING 'EMBARGO' ON EXPORTS TO LIBYA

LD181601 Moscow TASS in English 1513 GMT 18 Dec 83

[Text] New York December 18 TASS -- President Reagan has forwarded a memorandum to the U.S. secretary of state, and the secretaries of defence and commerce, in which he informs them about the imposition of a ban on export licenses to Libya for equipment installed at a petro-chemical integrated works now under construction there. Reporting this, THE NEW YORK TIMES points out that judging by that document, Washington is considering the question of a comprehensive embargo on U.S. exports to Libya. The White House intends to induce its West European allies into backing these discriminatory actions. The corresponding instructions, the newspaper says, have already been given by the President to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

The purpose behind those hostile and provocative actions, according to THE NEW YORK TIMES, is to "punish" the Middle Eastern state whose independent policy in the world arena and refusal to yield to U.S. crude pressure and open blackmail are the cause of the U.S. Administration's unconcealed irritation.

SUPREME SOVIET, UAE PRESIDENT TRADE CABLES

PM161108 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "On the National Holiday"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates [UAE], a telegram on the occasion of the country's national holiday conveying to him and the friendly UAE people congratulations and good wishes for prosperity and success.

In a reply telegram, the UAE President expressed sincere gratitude for the congratulations and conveyed wishes for progress and prosperity to the friendly Soviet people.

CONGRATULATIONS SENT TO NEW MOROCCAN PREMIER

PM151611 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Sincere Congratulations"]

[Text] The USSR Council of Ministers has sent Mohammed Karim Lamrani a telegram in connection with his appointment as prime minister of Morocco in which it conveyed to him sincere congratulations and wishes for new successes in this lofty post. In a reply telegram, M.K. Lamrani expressed deep gratitude for the congratulations and good wishes.

The telegrams express the confidence that the relations of friendship and fruitful cooperation between the USSR and Morocco will continue to develop for the good of both countries' peoples and in the name of consolidating peace and international security.

MOSCOW VIEWS LATEST RUMSFELD VISIT TO CAIRO

LD182120 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 18 Dec 83

[Correspondent Leonid Rassadin report from Cairo]

[Text] U.S. presidential special envoy Rumsfeld arrived in the Egyptian capital today.

This is the second visit to Egypt by the White House envoy since he became President Reagan's special representative. But this time his tour of the Near East region is taking place in a somewhat different atmosphere, following the barbaric shelling and bombing of the territory of sovereign Lebanon by the U.S. military. Apart from that, accords on strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel have recently been reached. Israeli radio today reported that these also have secret supplements; they provide for a sharp increase in U.S. military supplies to Israel. The strengthening of the U.S.-Israeli military-political alliance is evoking growing concern in the Arab world, including Egypt. In the opinion of many Egyptian observers, one of the chief aims of Rumsfeld's present visit to Cairo is to try to neutralize the anti-U.S. mold in Egypt. The local press has recently been subjecting the Washington administration, which is encouraging Tel Aviv's aggressive expansionist aspirations, to daily criticism.

The other immediate task for the White House special envoy is to exert pressure on Egypt in order to force it to reduce the temperature of the tension in relations with Israel, as they say here. It should be noted that, since the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982, Egyptian-Israeli relations, primarily political ones, have been virtually frozen. And today, the well informed Cairo magazine OCTOBER reports that in the situation that has formed, Ash-Shaf'i 'Abd al-Hamid, Egypt's deputy foreign minister, has rejected an invitation from the Israeli Government to visit Tel Aviv for talks.

EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL HITS U.S. MIDEAST POLICY

PM160956 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Dec 83 First Edition p 5

[Report by own correspondent V. Peresada: "Egyptian Government Representative Statement"]

[Text] Cairo, 13 Dec -- A statement condemning Washington's Near East course has been made by U. al-Baz, head of the Egyptian president's political office and Egyptian first deputy foreign minister, who recently completed a visit to the United States.

During the visit, U. al-Baz said, the head of the White House was given a message from the Egyptian president noting the need to avoid any escalation of tension and acts of violence, and to contribute to establishing peace in the Near East. But events show the agreement on U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation" has placed a new obstacle in the way of peace in the region.

By concluding the agreement, the United States fully orientated itself toward Israel. And this took place in conditions where a just solution of the Palestinian problem is still wanting.

MARITIME TRANSPORT AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH TUNISIA

For Tunisian reportage on the meeting in Tunis between Mr Timofey Guzhenko, minister of the maritime fleet, and Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba, including coverage on the signing and provisions of a bilateral maritime transport agreement, see the Tunisia subsection of the North Africa section of the 19 December Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT.

U.S. SAID 'SWEET-TALKING' CONTADORA GROUP

PM161510 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Dec 83 Second Edition p 5

[Vadim Listov "Commentator's Column": "Propaganda Assault"]

[Text] R. Stone, President Reagan's special representative in Central America, will very soon be setting off on a tour of the "Contadora Group" of countries, visiting Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama. On Monday the commission on Central America headed by former U.S. Secretary of State H. Kissinger arrives in Mexico. And today U.S. Vice President G. Bush himself is to make a hasty visit to El Salvador in the company of U.S. Assistant Secretary for Inter-America Affairs L. Motley.

It has now become a rule for every adventurist act -- be it the landing of Marines in Lebanon, the deployment of Pershings in Europe or intervention against little Grenada -- to be preceded by the generation of a propaganda fog, with Washington prattling on about its love of peace. The Reagan administration's current actions are a further confirmation of this.

Washington propaganda is portraying its new operation in Central America as evidence of the U.S. desire for a political settlement in the region and its support for the efforts of the "Contadora Group" which, incidentally, the White House has been assiduously sweet-talking of late. But what we are concerned with is something else.

The barbarous aggression against sovereign Grenada together with Washington's policy of state terrorism against Nicaragua continue to arouse condemnation and protests on the part of many Latin American governments. U.S. actions are being criticized particularly sharply by the members of the "Contadora Group." In an interview with THE NEW YORK TIMES correspondent in Caracas, Jaime Lusinchi, newly elected president of Venezuela, called for "an end to military interference in Nicaragua" and stressed that the United States "must not act like a policeman with a 'big stick.'" The growth of this kind of feeling by no means pleases the White House. To all appearances, the propaganda assault directed at the "Contadora Group" of countries is supposed to neutralize it.

One cannot avoid noticing that Washington's latest bout of "love of peace" occurred immediately after Nicaragua's Sandinist government announced the holding of elections in the country and an amnesty for rebel elements, thus showing that it is prepared to take real steps to promote the settlement of the crisis situation in the region. The best Washington could do was to respond to Managua's constructive stance with a propaganda offensive in order to calm growing fears in the region regarding U.S. preparations for an armed action against Nicaragua.

The facts show that Washington, under cover of propaganda statements about a U.S. desire for peace, continues to pursue the course of military adventures and to prepare for armed aggression against revolutionary Nicaragua.

STUKALIN HOSTS DEPARTING ECUADORAN ENVOY

PM181824 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "On Leaving"]

[Text] USSR Deputy Foreign Minister V.F. Stukalin held a luncheon 12 December in honor of J. Carlos Faidutti, Ecuadoran ambassador to the USSR, in connection with his return home.

BARKAUSKAS DELEGATION DEPARTS ARGENTINA

PM161226 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Departure Home"]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Dec -- The USSR delegation led by A.S. Barkauskas, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, has left the Argentine capital for home. It was here to take part in the events connected with the assumption of office by the new Argentine President R. Alfonsin.

During its stay in Buenos Aires the delegation was received by R. Alfonsin and had meetings with D. Caputo, leader of the National Congress and foreign minister.

RESUMPTION OF ARGENTINE NATIONAL CONGRESS NOTED

LD162018 Moscow TASS in English 1707 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires December 16 TASS -- The National Congress of Argentina resumed its work after an intermission of nearly eight years.

The composition of the National Congress was elected at the general election of October 30. The previous parliament was dissolved in March 1976 immediately after a military coup as a result of which the constitutional government has been overthrown.

At an extra-ordinary session convened by President Raul Alfonsin the congress will discuss the first bills of the government. The most important of them is on the abrogation of the so-called "law on pacifying the country". It was adopted by the military authorities in September 1983 and it absolved from the responsibility and punishment the persons involved in organising the operations for "combatting subversive elements", the operations in which thousands of innocent Argentinians were killed.

A number of bills envisaging the change of some codes, including the military-legal code, were also submitted to the congress. The parliamentarians will discuss a draft law on measures of protecting the constitutional order and democracy.

ANDROPOV SETS SUPREME SOVIET ELECTIONS 4 MAR

LD171444 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 17 Dec 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] A decree by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium fixing the date of elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation:

In connection with the expiry of the term of office of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 10th convocation, on the basis of Article 90 of the USSR Constitution and Article 12 of the USSR Law on Elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees as follows:

That elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation are to be fixed for Sunday, 4 March 1984.

[Signed] Andropov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

Election Procedures

LD171626 Moscow TASS in English 1611 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 17 TASS -- By TASS commentator Vsevolod Lavrentyev.

Elections to the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the national parliament, have been scheduled for Sunday, March 4, 1984. The decree by the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet to this effect was published today. 750 electoral districts for elections to the Soviet of the Union and 750 electoral districts for elections to the Soviet of Nationalities have been formed nation-wide. Both soviets are equal chambers of the supreme body of state authority in the Soviet Union.

The elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet are held under the Soviet Constitution every five years on the basis of universal, equal and direct sufferage by secret voting.

All Soviet citizens above 18 years of age are eligible to take part in voting. A citizen of the USSR who is over 21 years may be elected deputy of the Soviet parliament.

The law bans any direct or indirect restrictions of the right to vote due to origin, social or property qualifications, race or nationality, sex, education, language, attitude to religion, length of sojourn in the locality, type and character of occupation.

Each voter has only one vote. Men and women enjoy equal suffrage.

The electoral districts for elections to the Soviet of the Union have an equal number of people throughout Soviet territory. The electoral districts for elections to the Soviet of Nationalities are formed according to the norm: 32 districts in each union republic, 11 districts in each autonomous Republic, five districts in each autonomous region and one district in each autonomous area.

All sections of the Soviet population are represented in the Soviet parliament. More than half of the present composition of the USSR Supreme Soviet are workers and farmers. Among the deputies are workers of science, culture, literature and art, education and health services, party, trade union and Komsomol functionaries, servicemen. Nearly a third of the over-all composition of the two chambers are women. Young people under thirty account for one-fifth of the deputies.

Representatives of 61 nationalities are among the deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The composition of the USSR Supreme Soviet reflects the high level of education of the Soviet people. More than half of all deputies have higher education. The rest have incomplete higher, secondary and incomplete secondary education.

DETAILS OF CPSU POLITBURO SESSION REPORTED

PM191000 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Dec 83 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the CPSU Central Committee Politburo"]

[Text] At its routine meeting the CPSU Central Committee Politburo discussed the drafts of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR and the USSR State Budget for 1984. Reports on these questions were delivered by Comrade N.A. Tikhonov, member of the Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Comrade Garbuzov, USSR minister of finance.

The session noted that in 1983 the rates of economic growth had risen, qualitative indices and the level of plan fulfilment had improved somewhat in industry, transport and construction, the production of agricultural output had gone up, the real income of the population had grown, and a positive trend had been noted in the national economy as a whole. Measures had been taken to strengthen state and labor discipline, and to raise organizational standards, efficiency and responsibility in the work of cadres at all levels of management. In these circumstances it is important not to slacken the pace which has been achieved, or lose the general positive attitude toward affairs and to continue yet more persistently and consistently the course of raising the level of management and to develop positive trends more actively.

The 1984 state plan must be an important stage in the fulfillment of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and of the subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee. It is designed, to a greater extent than before, to raise the efficiency of the economic structure, and for the dynamic development of the national economy. The plan brings enterprises, ministries, and departments face to face with the task of guaranteeing an increase in the production of goods with at the same time less specific consumption of material resources, especially fuel and metal. The fulfillment of tasks for such very important economic indices as labor productivity, cost price and profit must always be the focus of attention. The plan envisages a faster growth of final results in comparison with the growth in outlay, the widespread introduction in practice of the achievements of science, technology, frontranking experience and the brigade form of organizing labor. The social direction of the plan is being stepped up. It provides for everything necessary to maintain the country's defense capability at the level needed.

The Politburo completely supported the remarks made by Comrade Andropov about the need to weigh up carefully yet again the questions of balancing all sections of the plan, to seek out extra reserves for the uninterrupted work of branches and enterprises constantly and insistently during the course of its fulfillment, to ensure the strictest savings in materials, raw materials, energy and other resources, to raise consistently the standard of living of the Soviet people, to increase production and to improve the quality of goods for the people.

Particular attention was paid to the question of using more fully and effectively all the existing production and scientific and technical potential of the country, of eliminating bottlenecks and imbalances in the development of the economy, and speeding up work on the improvement of the mechanism of economic management.

Having thoroughly discussed the submitted drafts of the state plan and budget for the upcoming year, the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee adopted the decision to put them forward for examination by the routine plenum of the party's Central Committee.

In connection with the expiration in March 1984 of the period of authority of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 10th convocation, the Politburo discussed a number of questions about the preparation of the next election to the highest organ of state power in the country.

A decision was adopted setting out the tasks of party organizations in connection with the forthcoming election campaign. It notes that the preparations for the elections must proceed under the token of further development of socialist people's power, the strengthening of the bloc of communists and non-party members and the still broader involvement of citizens in the management of the affairs of state and of society. Stress was placed upon the task of finding among the masses really authoritative people and true representatives of the people, who would have the necessary political and workmanlike qualities, would enjoy the respect of the working people and know how to work with people and putting such people forward as candidates for election.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo noted that party organizations are called upon to closely tie in all the preelection work with the specific tasks of the economic, social-political and spiritual development of Soviet society, to channel the efforts of the working people toward the successful completion of the 1983 plan targets and toward picking up the same pace from the first days of the fourth year of the 5-year plan. In the process it is essential to use all the means of organizational and political work to ensure the active and interested participation of the electors in preelection measures, to make broader use of the various forms andmethods of agitation and propaganda, and to overcome elements of over-organization and formalism.

The elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet must be a review of the activities of the soviets of people's deputies and all state bodies. The Politburo pointed to the need to create all the conditions so that preelection meetings critically assess the work of state bodies and the fulfilment of mandates from the electors, pinpoint difficulties and shortcomings, outline measures for their elimination and ensure a careful and attentive attitude toward the proposals, complaints and representations of citizens.

A detailed account of the CPSU Central Committee decision on this matter will be published in the press.

The Politburo meeting reviewed and approved information on the conference held in Moscow on 9 December 1983 of the secretaries of the Central Committees of the communist and workers parties of the socialist countries on international and ideological questions

It approved the results of the work of the Soviet delegation at the routine meeting in Sofia of the committee of defense ministers of the Warsaw Pact member states and the results of the visit by the delegation headed by D.F. Ustinov to the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

The meeting of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo also reviewed certain other questions.

PONOMAREV NEW CPSU CONTROL COMMITTEE DEPUTY

LD161435 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] A plenum of the Vladimir Obkom of the party took place today. It examined organizational questions. The plenum released Comrade Ponomarev from the duties of first secretary of the CPSU Obkom, in connection with his confirmation as the deputy chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee.

Comrade Bobovikov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee, who was working as the chairman of the Executive Committee of the Leningrad Oblast council of peoples' deputies, has been elected as first secretary of the Vladimir Obkom of the party.

Comrade Smolskiy, deputy chief of the organizational party work department of the CPSU Central Committee, took part in the plenum's work.

NEW VILNIUS PARTY GORKOM CHIEF ELECTED

PM172048 Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 10 Dec 83 p 1

[ELTA report: "Vilnius Party Gorkom Plenum"]

[Text] Vilnius, 9 Dec -- An organizational plenum of the party gorkom, newly elected at the 23d city party conference, was held today. V. Mikuchyauskas was elected first secretary of the Vilnius Lithuanian Communist Party Gorkom; V. Klikunene was elected second secretary; and A. Christyakov secretary.

P. Grishkyavichus, first secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee, took part in the plenu's work.